

U.D.-R STORY

5

Kaoru Mori



ES-ED-ES STORY

5

Kaoru
Mori





TABLE OF CONTENTS



CHAPTER 23	
WEDDING BANQUET (PART 1)	003
CHAPTER 24	
WEDDING BANQUET (PART 2)	035
CHAPTER 25	
WEDDING BANQUET (PART 3)	079
CHAPTER 26	
THE DAYLONG SONG	117
SIDE STORY	
QUEEN OF THE MOUNTAIN	141
CHAPTER 27	
THE WOUNDED HAWK	149

I'M
JUST
FINE!

BUT IF
YOU SAY
YOU'RE
DONE,
THEN...

I'M JUST
WORRIED
ABOUT YOU,
LEILY. YOU'RE
OVERDOING
IT.

DON'T
YOU THINK
YOU'VE
ABOUT
REACHED
YOUR
LIMIT?

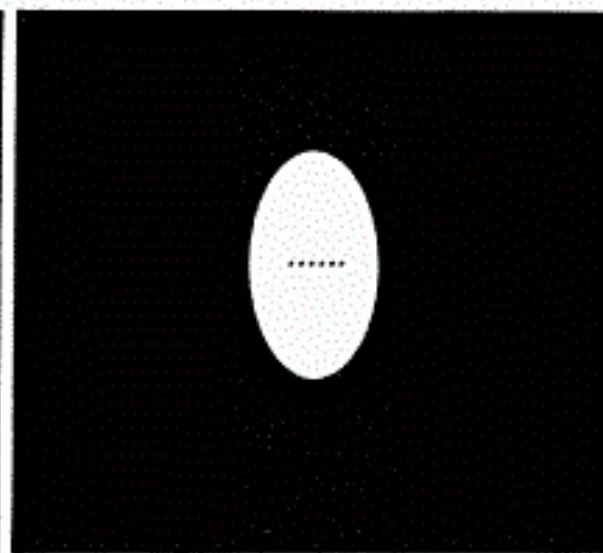
NO, BUT
I THINK
YOU HAVE,
LEILY.

YOU
CAN'T
HOLD
OUT ANY
LONGER,
CAN
YOU?

SAY,
LAILA?

YEAH,
LEILY?

◆ CHAPTER 23 ◆







THERE!
AND
THERE!

I THINK
YOU COULD
USE A FEW
MORE.



もも
もも
もも

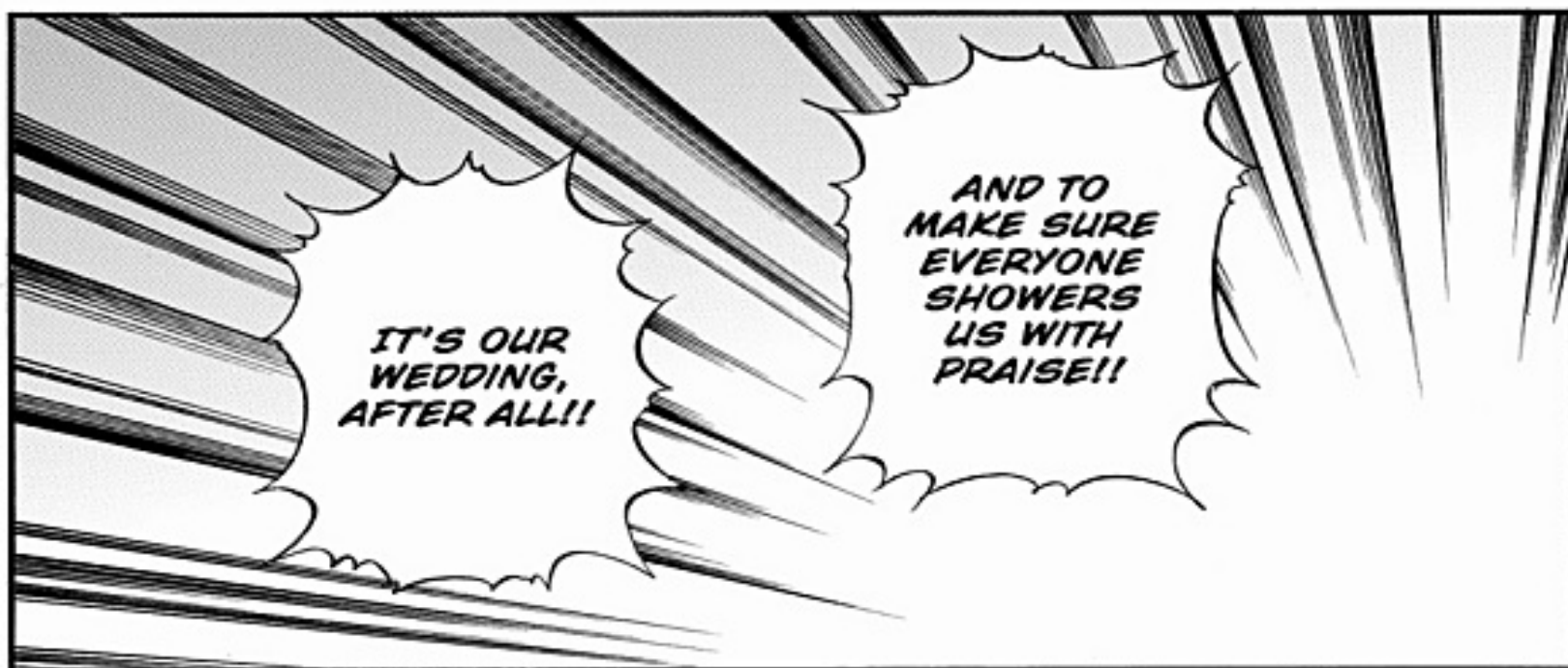
MOSO
(CRUSTLE)
MOSO



IT'S FOR
BEAUTY!

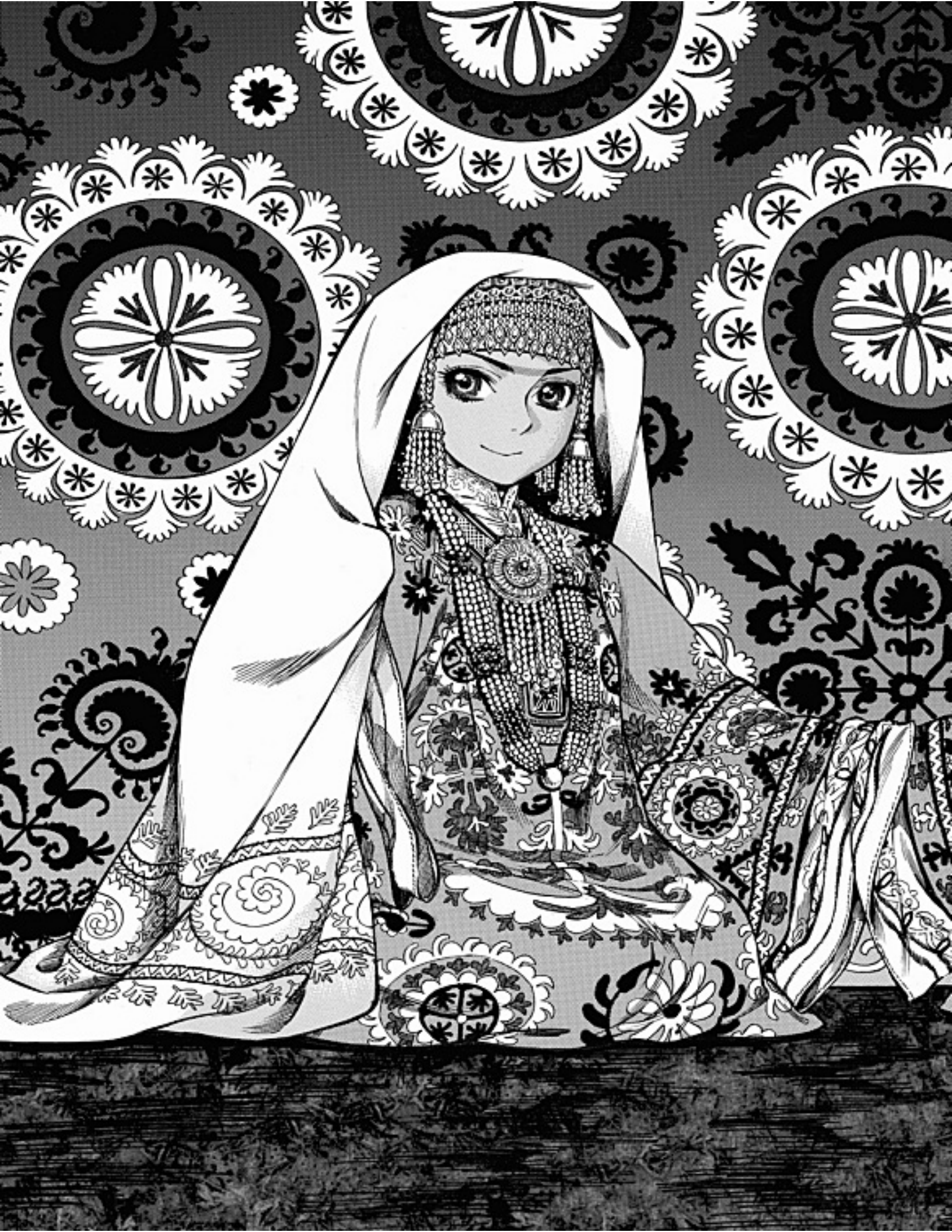
JUST
BEAR
WITH IT,
LEILY!

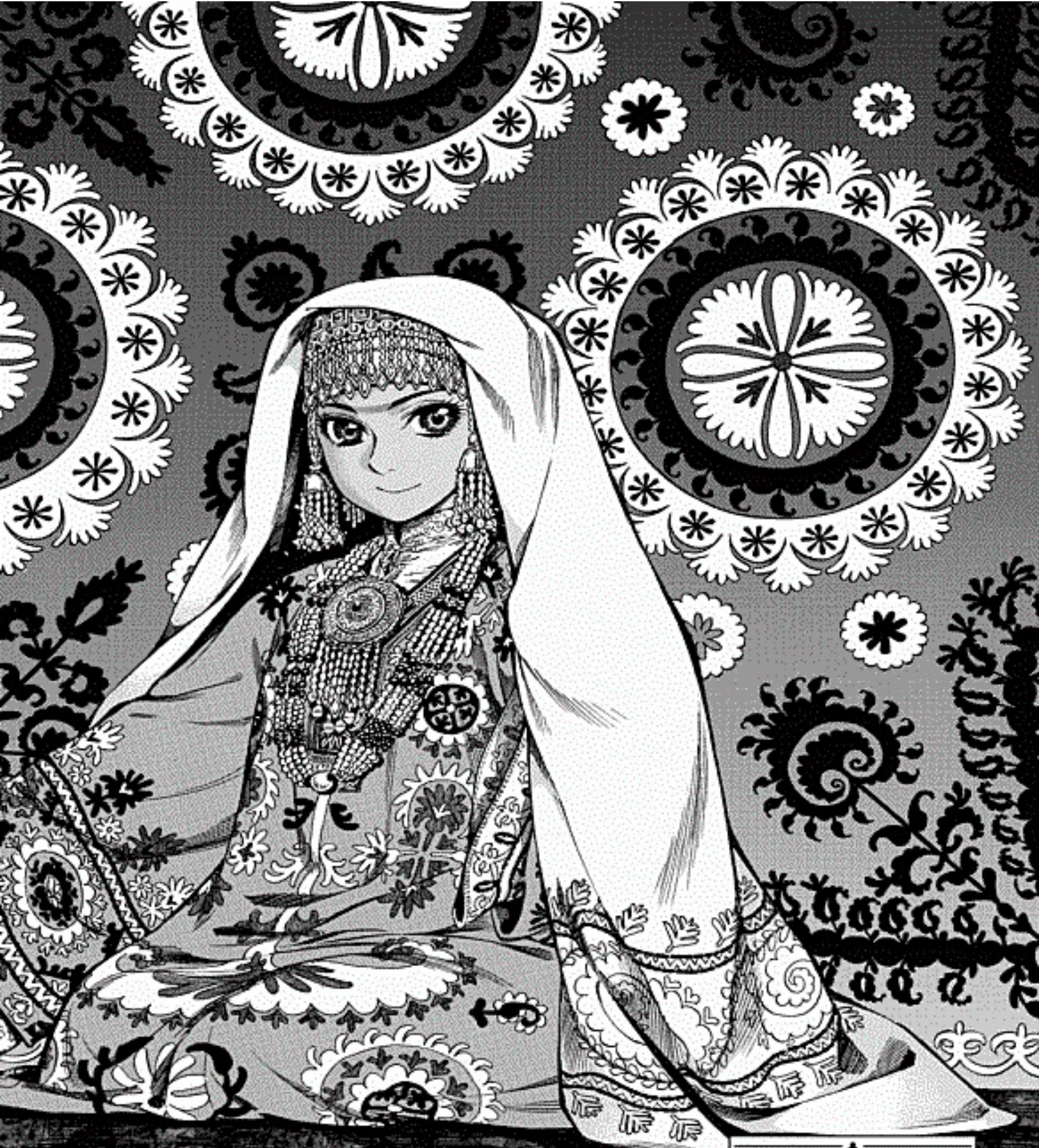
IT'S
SO HOT,
LAILA!



IT'S OUR
WEDDING,
AFTER ALL!!

AND TO
MAKE SURE
EVERYONE
SHOWERS
US WITH
PRAISE!!





◆
CHAPTER 23
WEDDING
BANQUET
(PART I)
◆





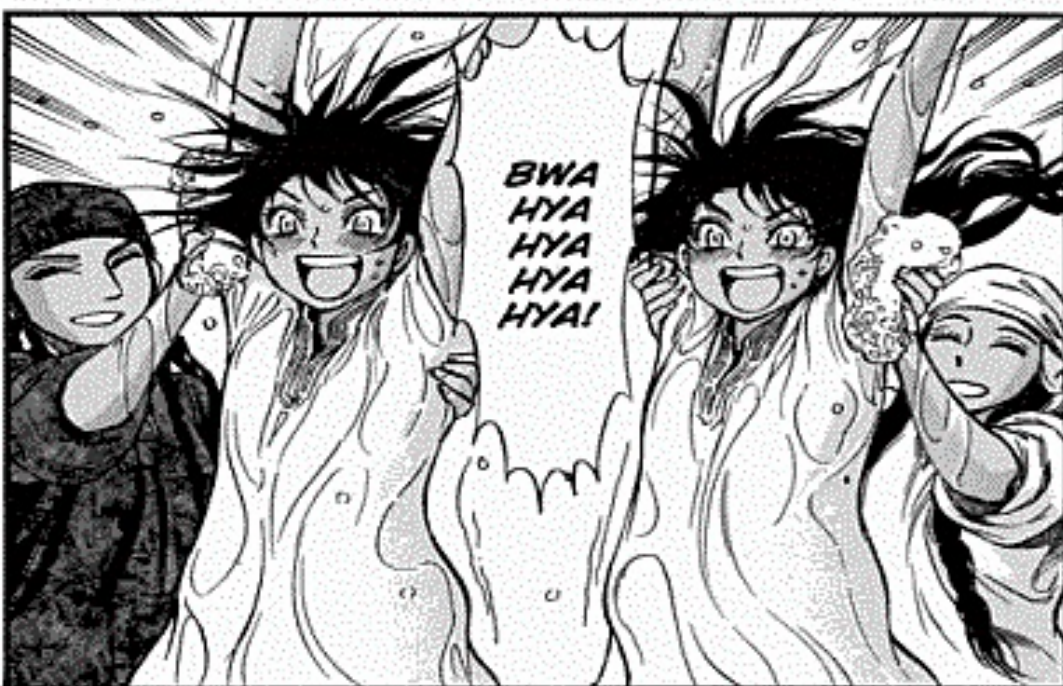
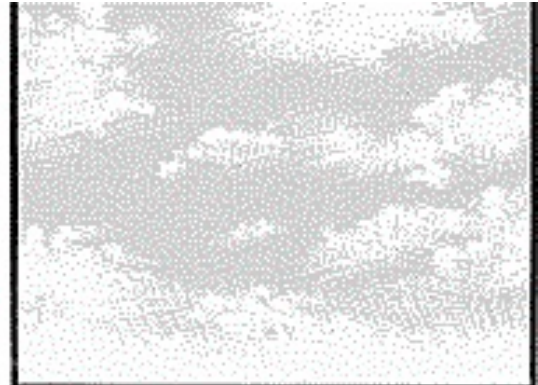
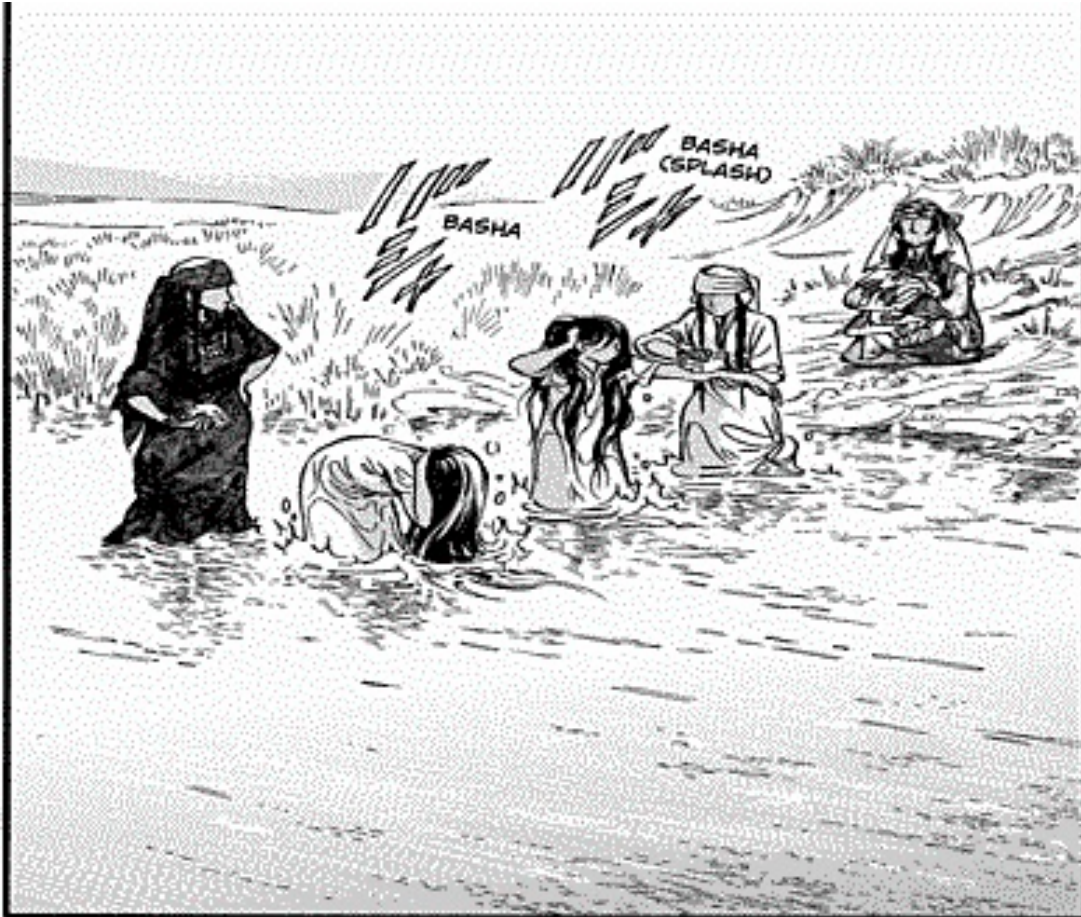






THE TUB!



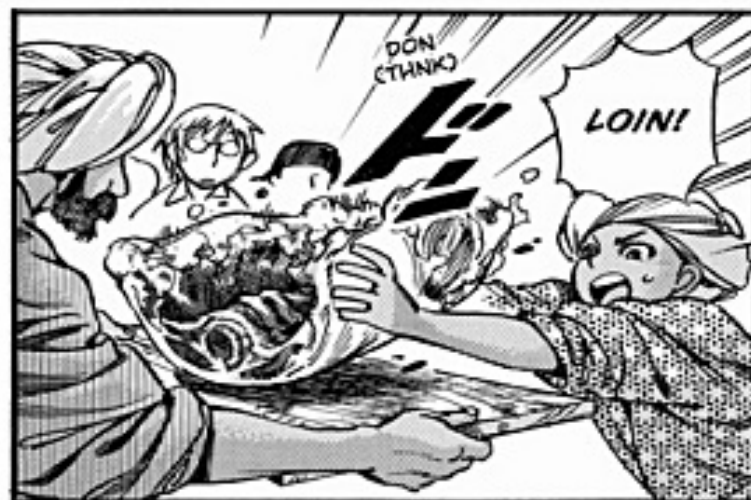








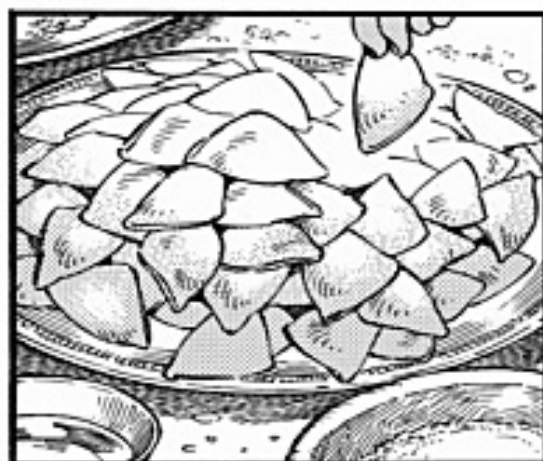




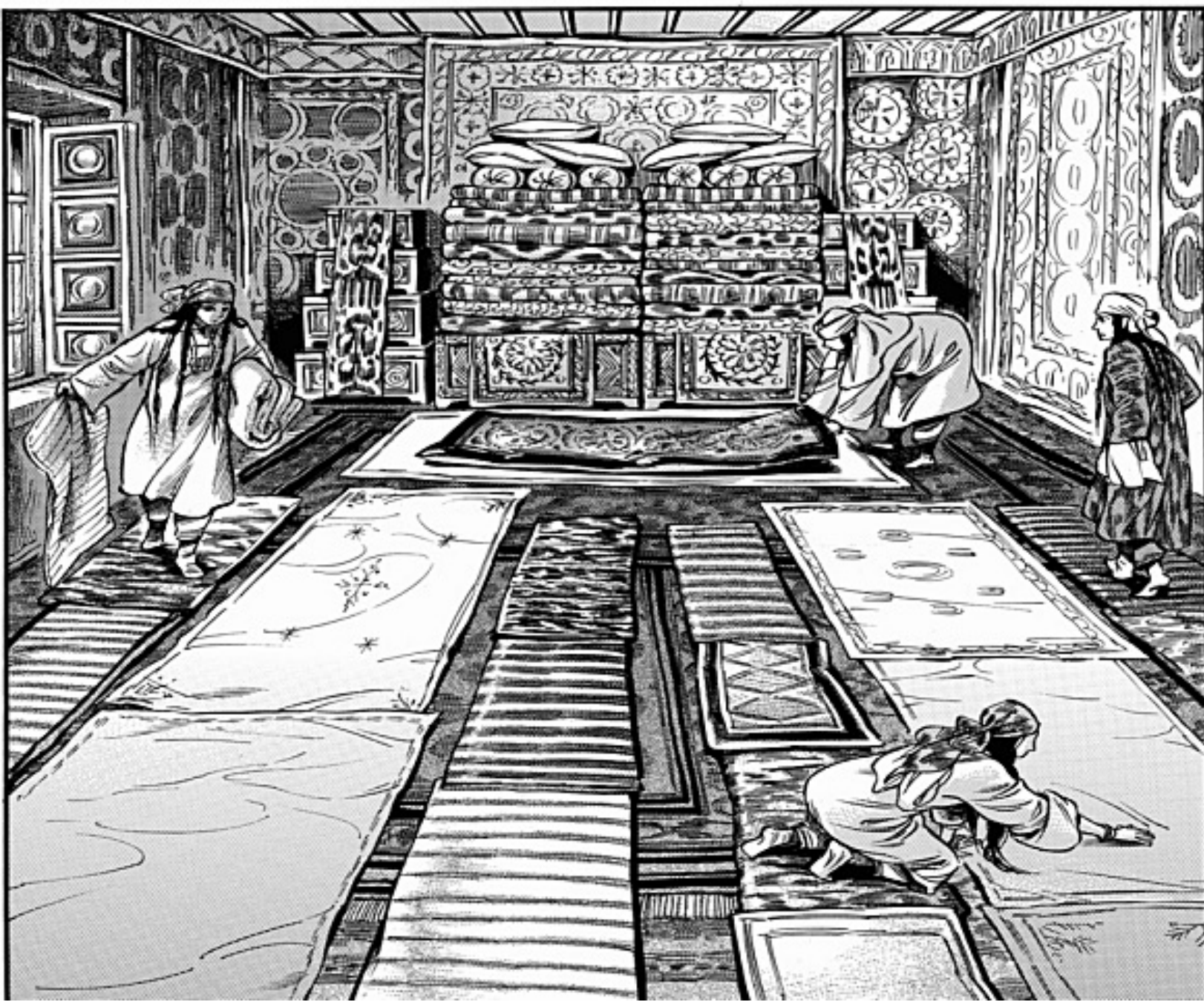


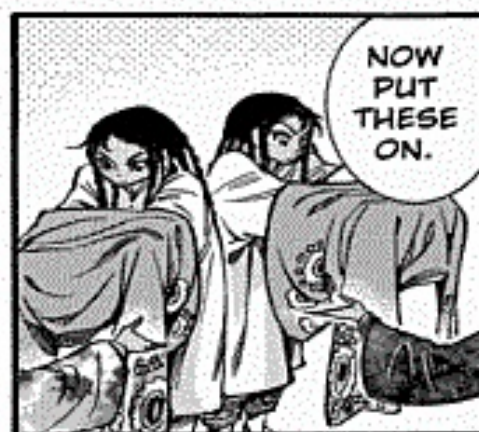
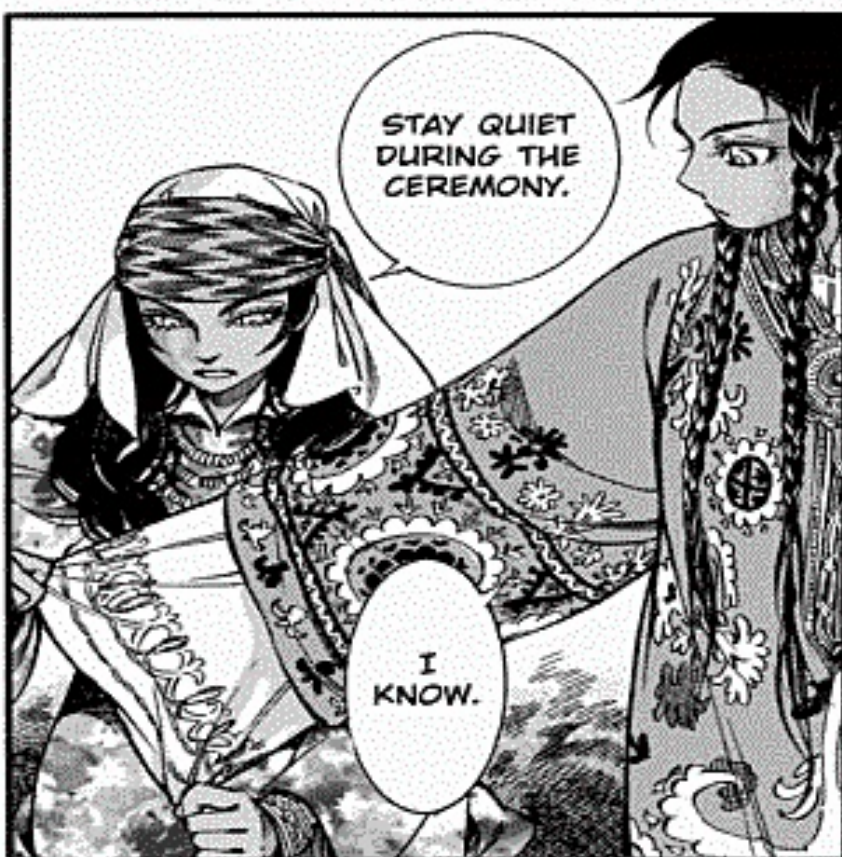


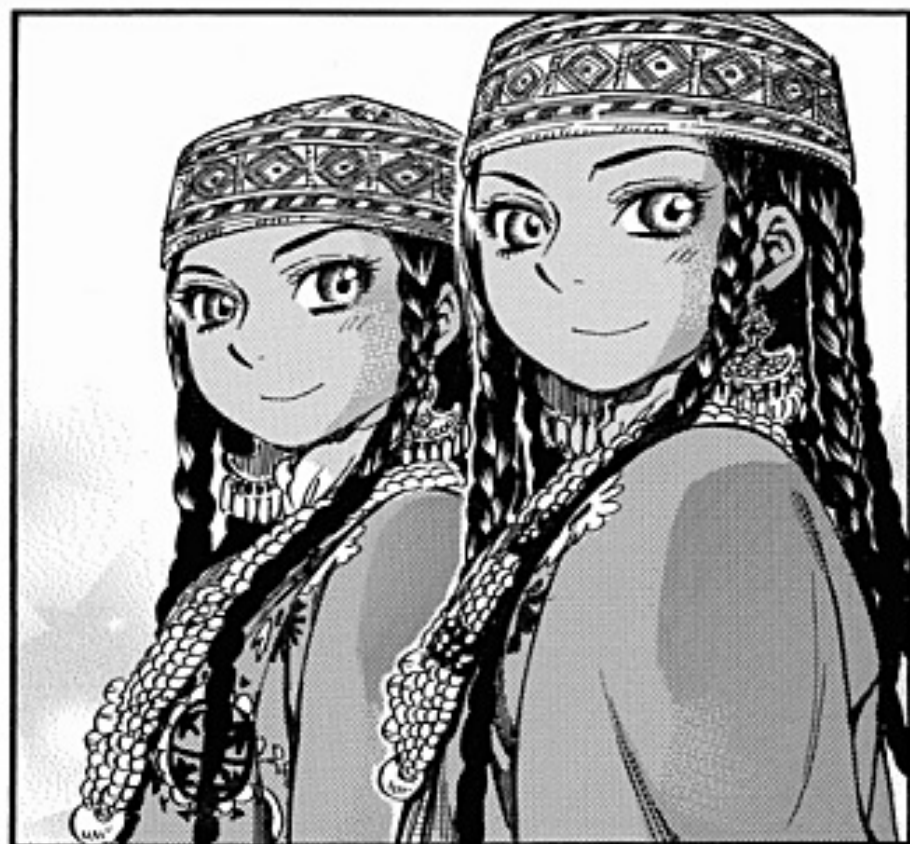


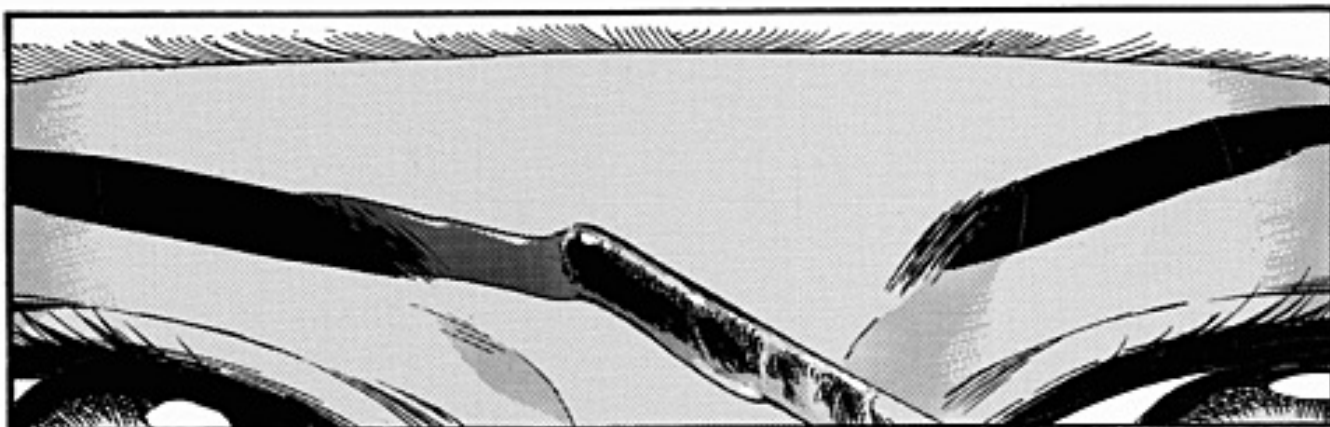
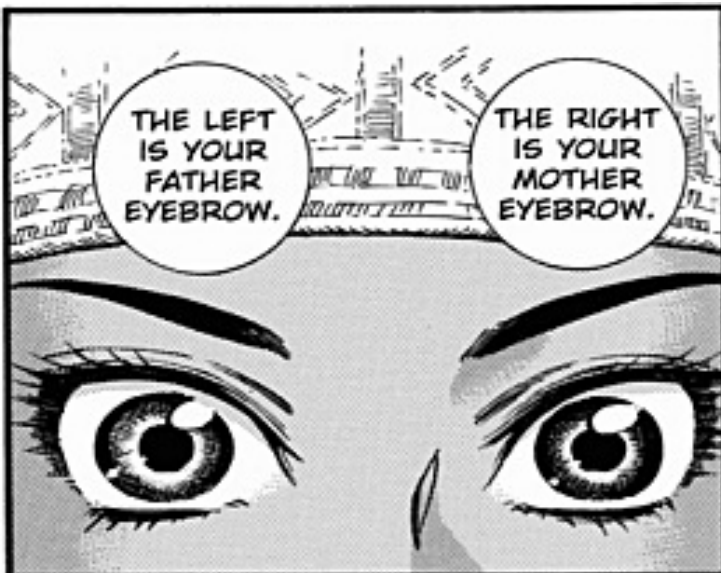


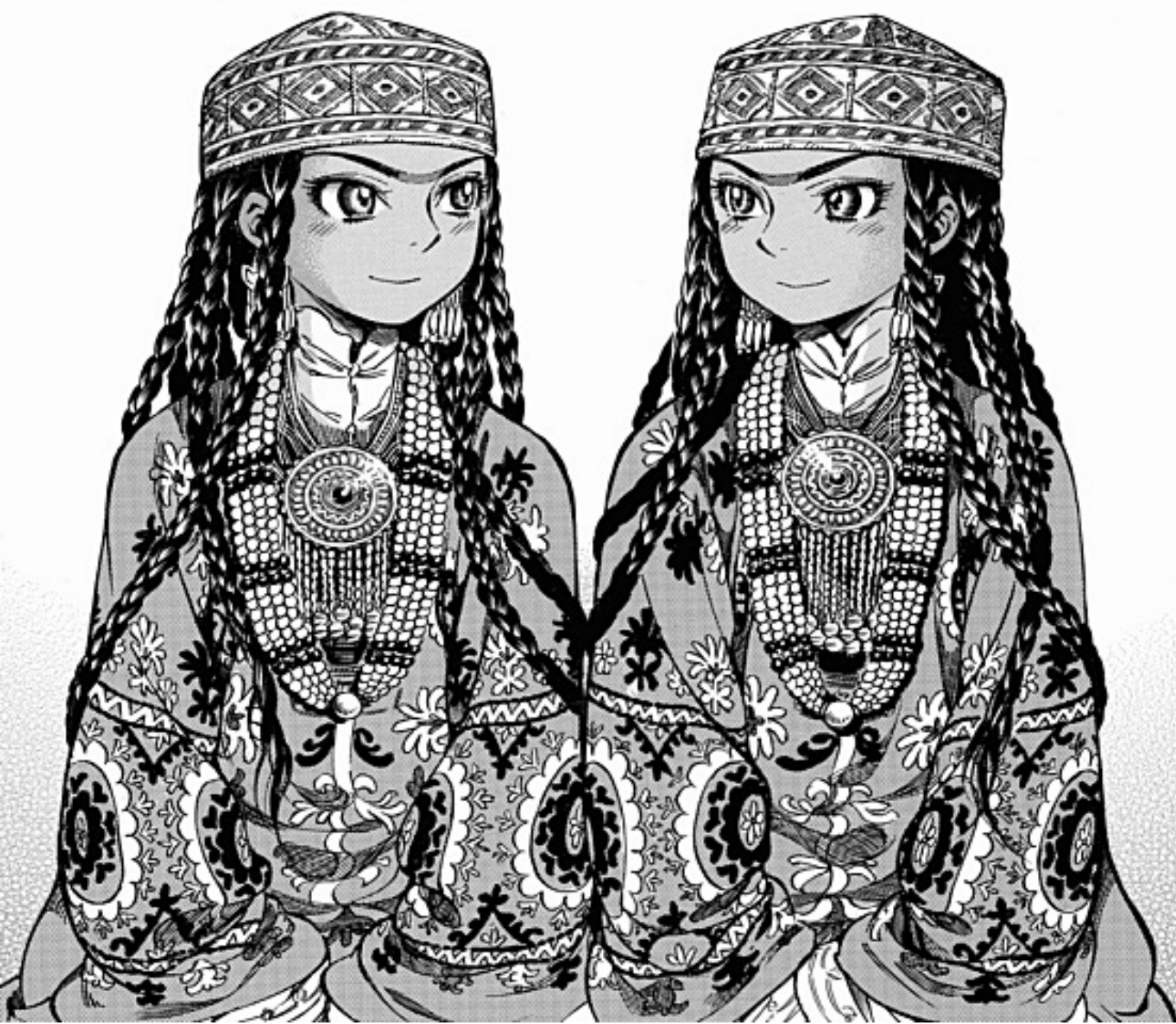
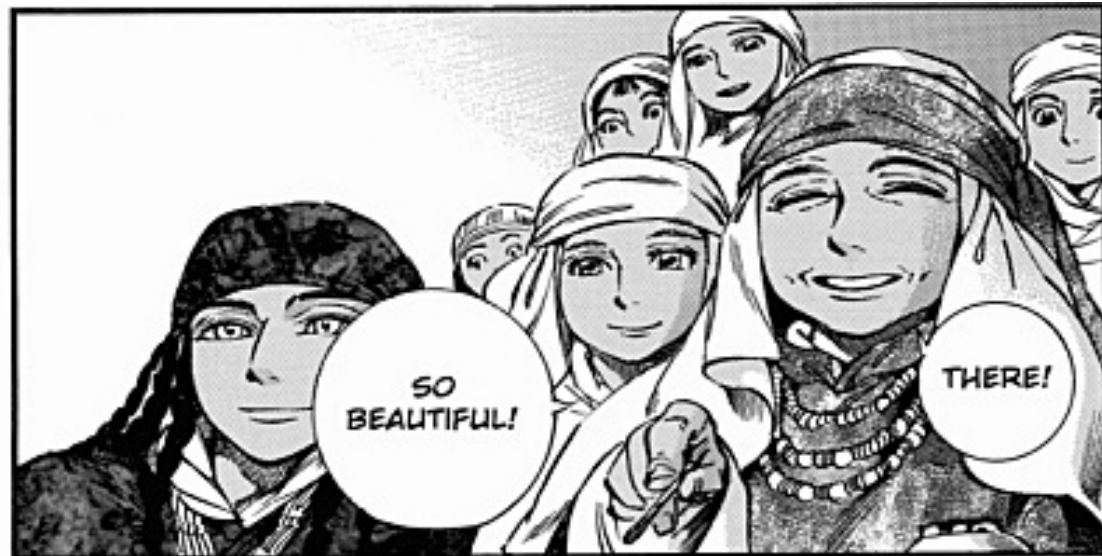


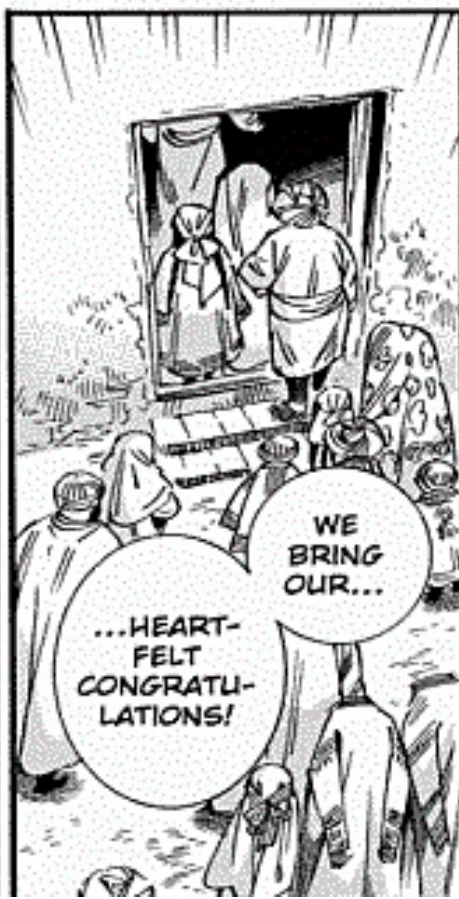
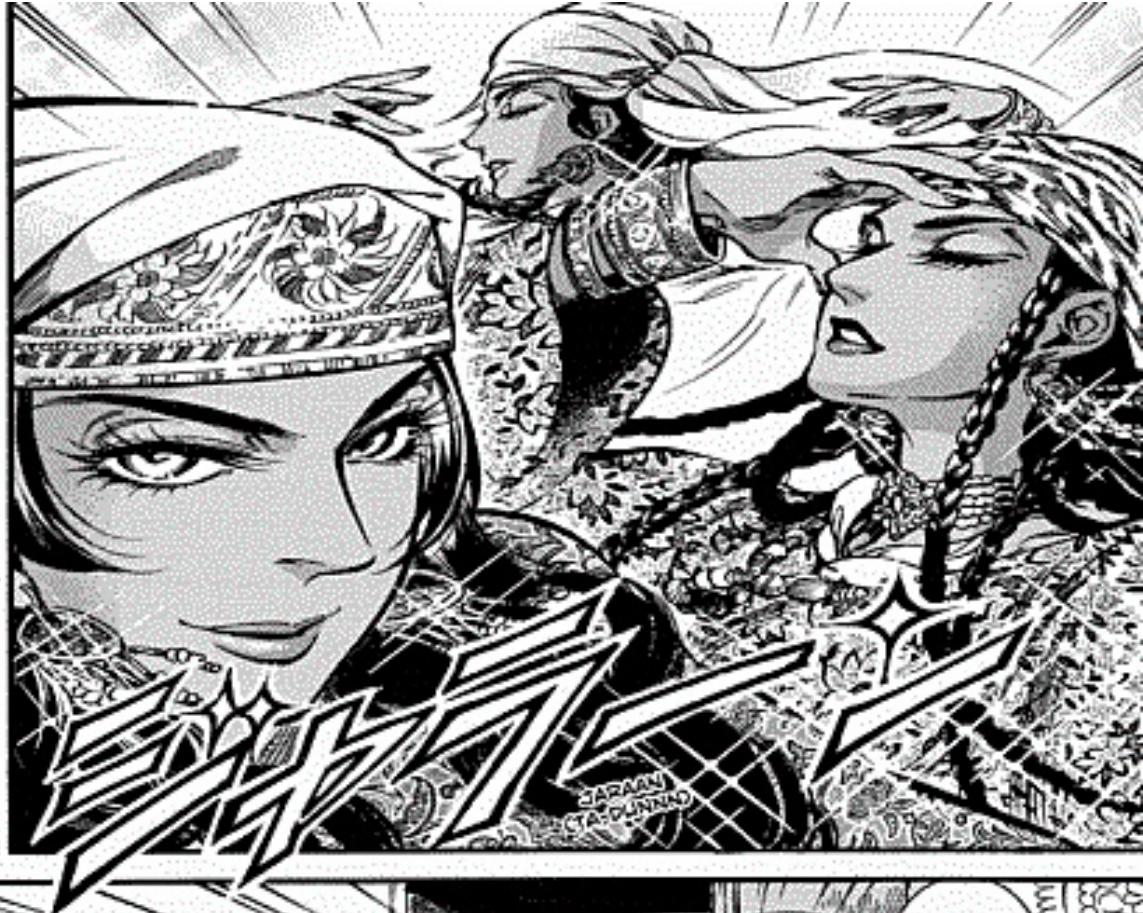
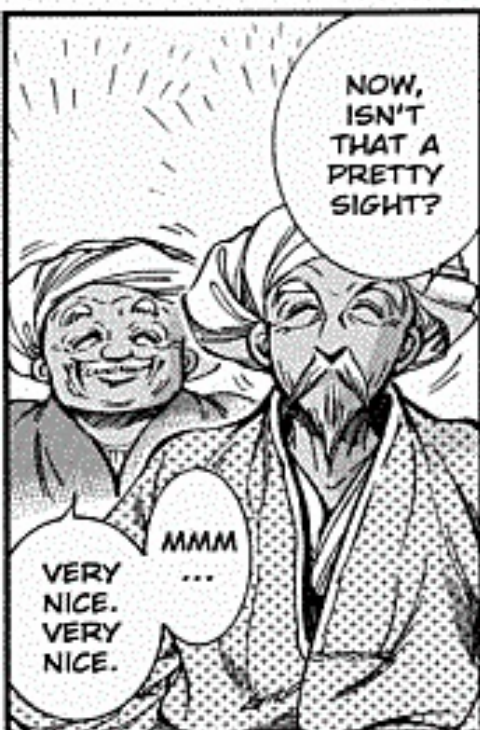


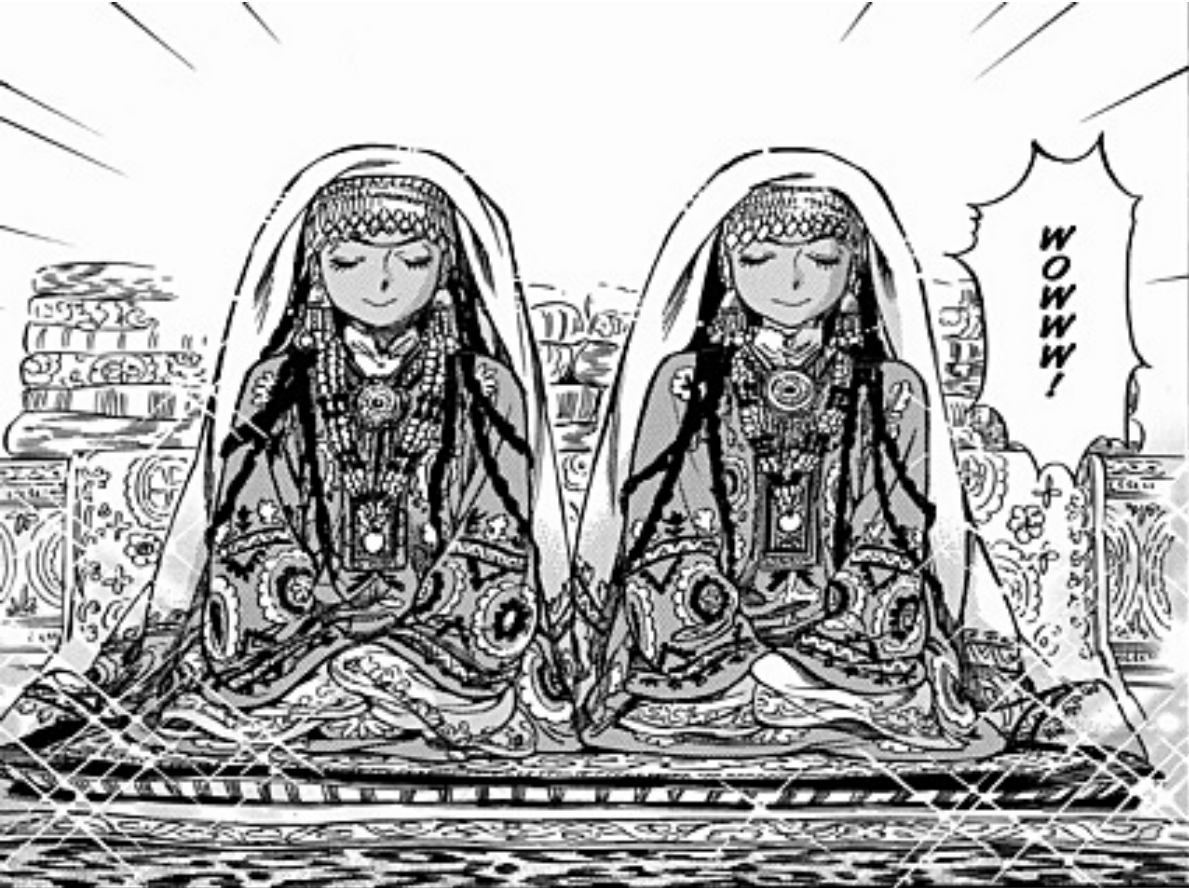
















ALL RIGHT!



DON'T YOU KNOW THE FAMILY?

I WAS HEADING DOWN THAT ROAD WHEN THEY CALLED ME OVER HERE.

NO...



AH! THANK YOU!

WELL, MY BEST TO THE COUPLE!



EH?

BY THE WAY, WHOSE WEDDING IS THIS?



WELL, THANK YOU!

BE SURE TO EAT YOUR FILL!

WONDERFUL! CONGRATULATIONS!

IF THEY WANT TO CELEBRATE WITH US...

...THEN THE MORE PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE THE WEDDING, THE BETTER!



THAT'S FINE! JUST FINE! EVEN IF THEY'RE STRANGERS!





RIGHT.

REMEMBER,
JUST STAY
CALM.

FACE THE
SITUATION
LIKE A REAL
GROOM.



IS IT
TOO
TIGHT?

NO.

IT'S
FINE.



ARE
YOU
READY
YET?

JUST
ABOUT.



HERE
THEY
COME!

OHH!!

YOU
TWO LOOK
FINE! JUST
FINE!

I'D
SAY THEY
LOOK LIKE
A PAIR
OF REAL
MEN!

WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?
TAKE A
LOOK!

MM.

JUST LIKE
ME IN MY
YOUTH.

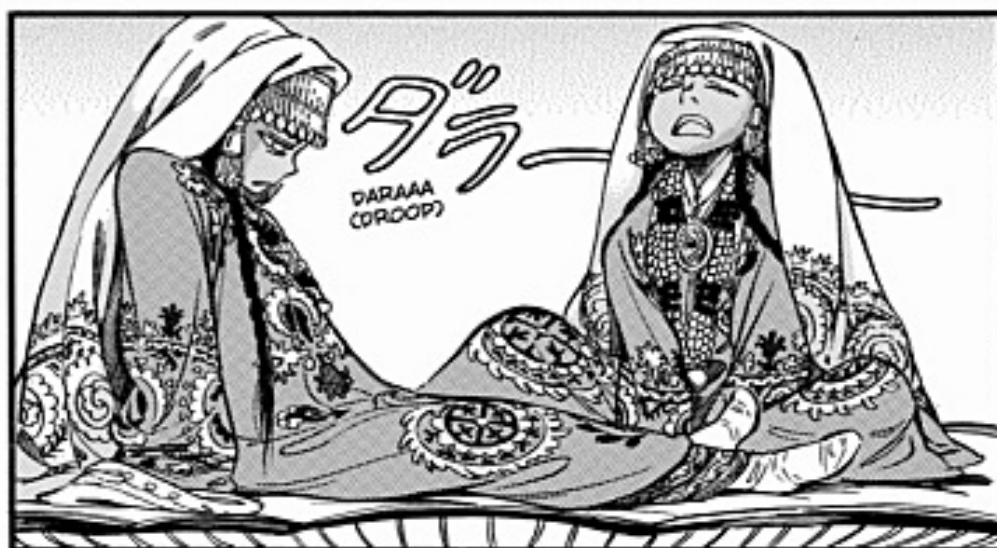




◆
CHAPTER 24
WEDDING
BANQUET
(PART 2)
◆











IMAGINE
HOW
RUDE
THAT
WOULD BE
TO YOUR
GUESTS!

YOU
CAN'T
JUST
LEAVE!



AND
EVERY-
BODY
ELSE IS
HAVING
FUN!

WE
CAN'T
EVEN
TALK!

...WE'VE
DONE
NOTHING
BUT
SIT!

WHY DO
THEY
NEED US
TO STAY
SITTING
THERE?



EH
HH
H?

SH!



WE'RE
HUNGRY!

THEN WHEN
DO WE GET
OUR SHARE
OF THE
FEAST?

DEAL
WITH
IT!

THAT
FOOD IS
FOR THE
GUESTS!



IS THAT
RIGHT?

EH?



HEY, EVERY-
BODY! THE
GROOMS HAVE
MADE THEIR
DEPARTURE!

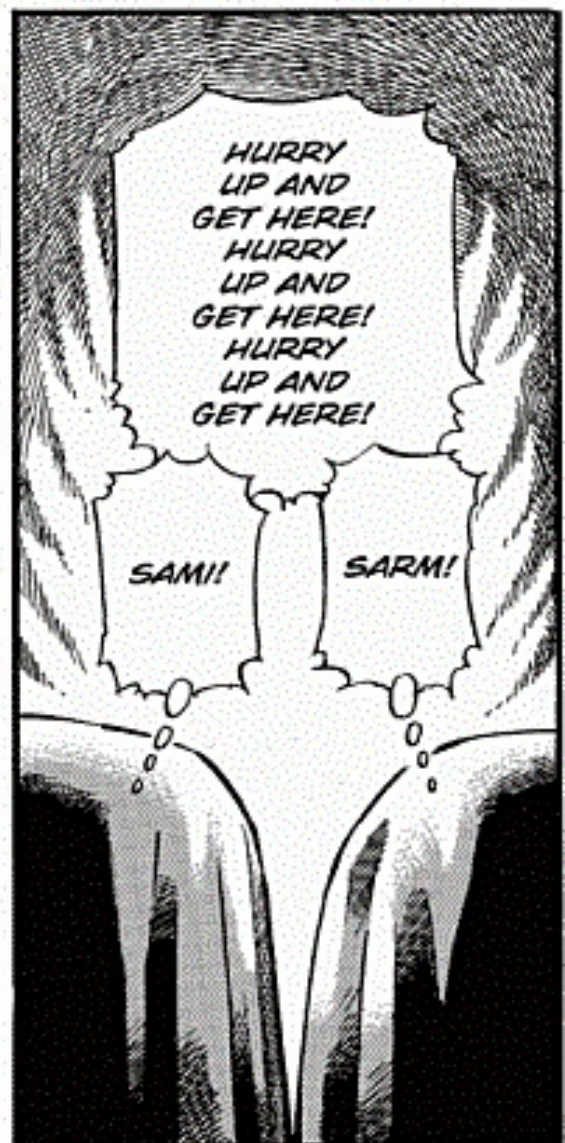
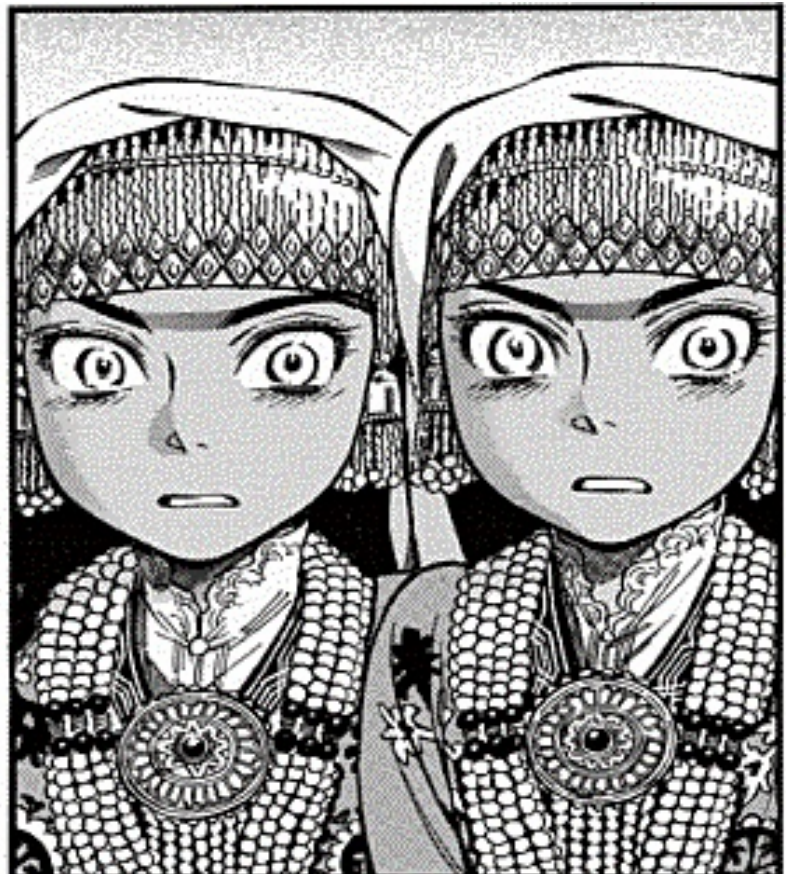
REALLY?

OH MY!



OH,
THERE
YOU
ARE!

I HEAR
THE
GROOMS
WILL
ARRIVE
SOON!!











WE'VE
BEEN
AWAITING
YOUR
ARRIVAL!

WEL-
COME!
WEL-
COME!



SHH!

AW,
THEY'RE
NERVOUS!
AS YOU'D
EXPECT!



MM.

FIRST
IS THE
TRANSFER
OF THE
BRIDE
PRICE.

NOW,
SHALL WE
BEGIN?



WE COME IN
ANTICIPATION
OF AN EVEN
GREATER
ERA OF
COOPERATION
BETWEEN OUR
TWO FAMILIES
AS RELATIVES.

YES...



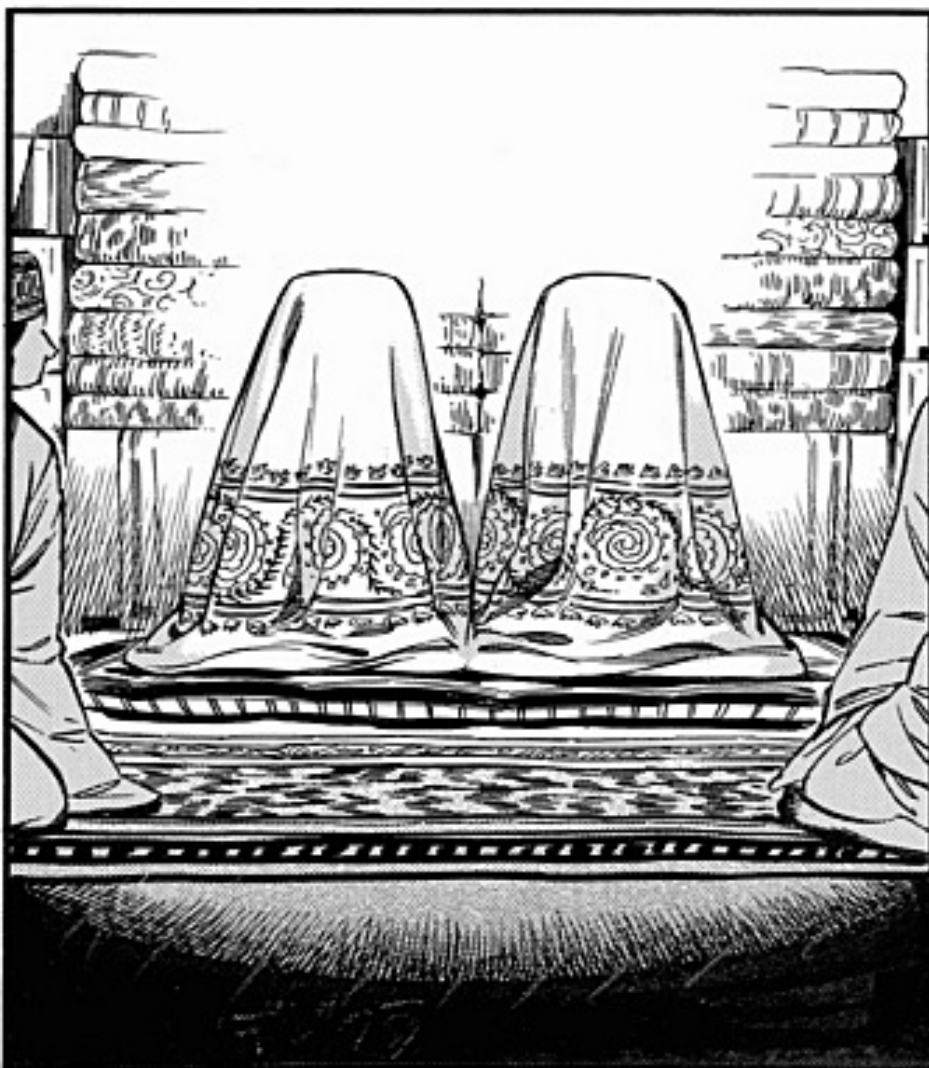
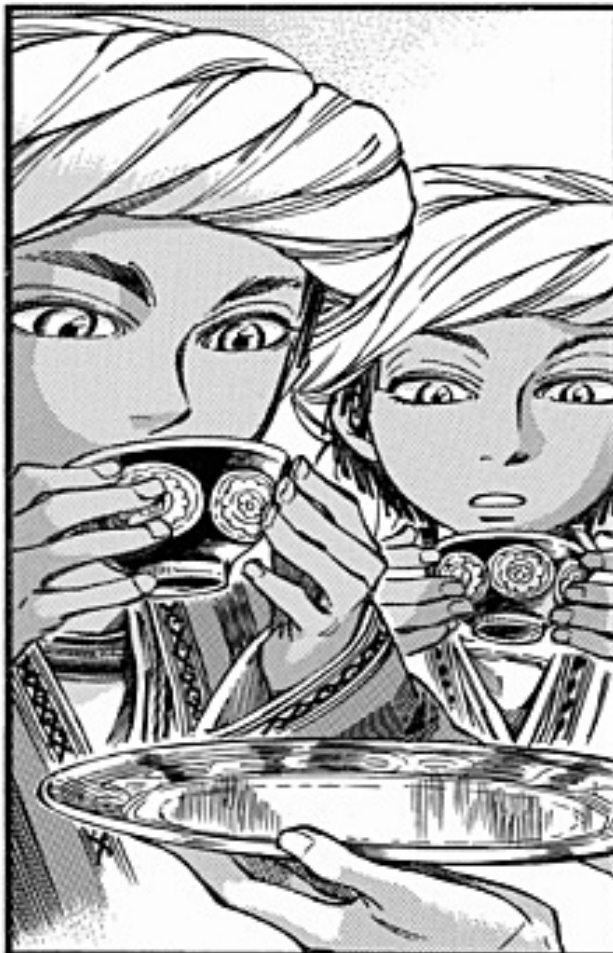
HERE'S
WISHING
HARMONY
BETWEEN
USSS.

WE ALSO
DESIRE
NOTHING
MORE! NOW
HURRY UP
AND FORK
IT OVER!



WE PRESENT
AN AMOUNT
AGREED UPON
THROUGH
NEGOTIATION
BETWEEN BOTH
FAMILIES!

A FINE
BRIDE
PRICE!







AND WHEN WE TRIED TO SNEAK OUT, MOTHER CAUGHT US! SHE EVEN CAME WITH US TO THE BATHROOM!

YEAH, SURE.

SHE'S KEEPING WATCH, RIGHT?



WE COULDN'T GO ANYWHERE! WE COULDN'T TALK!

OUR LEGS HURT NOW, AND WE'RE HUNGRY!

WE'VE BEEN SITTING HERE ALL THIS TIME!

YOU'RE LATE! YOU COULD HAVE COME MUCH EARLIER!



DON'T SEE ANYTHING.

YOU REALLY DON'T SEE IT?



YOU'RE UNDER A CLOTH! HOW COULD I SEE?

JUST LOOK AT THIS TIRED FACE OF MINE!



DON'T HAVE TO SEE TO KNOW.

!!
YOU SAID YOU COULDN'T SEE!

YOU'RE MAKING FUNNY FACES, AREN'T YOU?







WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING!?

HEY!



OKAY,
WE'RE
THERE.

I'LL WAIT
HERE.
COME
BACK
QUICK!



THAT'S
WHY I'M
GOING
WHERE
NOBODY
IS!

TAKE
ME
THERE,
SARM!

YOU GO
OUTSIDE
AND GET
CAUGHT,
THEY'LL
GET REALLY
MAD AT
YOU!



I
DON'T
NEED TO
GO ANY-
MORE.

LAILA,
THE BATH-
ROOM...



I CAN'T
BREATHE
IN
THERE
ANY-
MORE!

I'M
GOING
OUT-
SIDE!

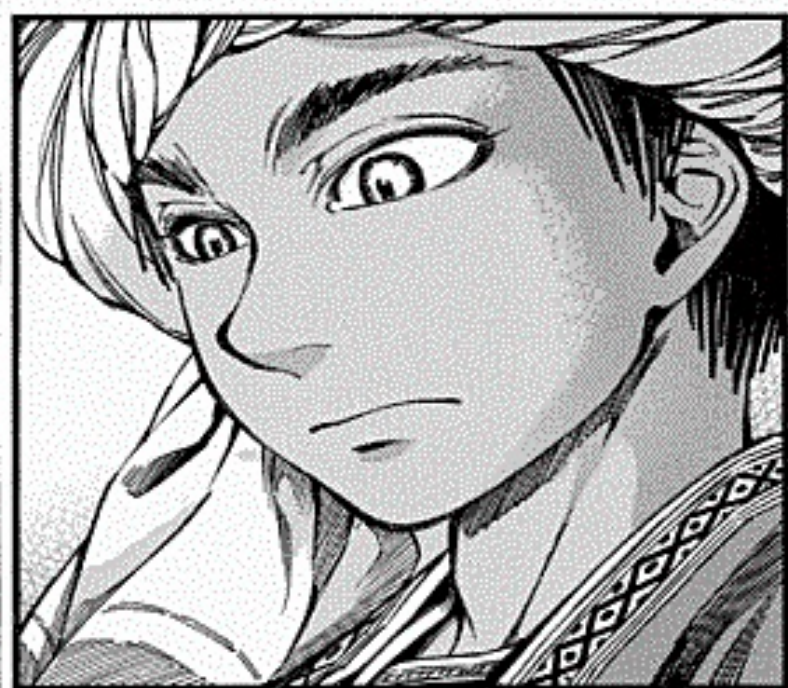


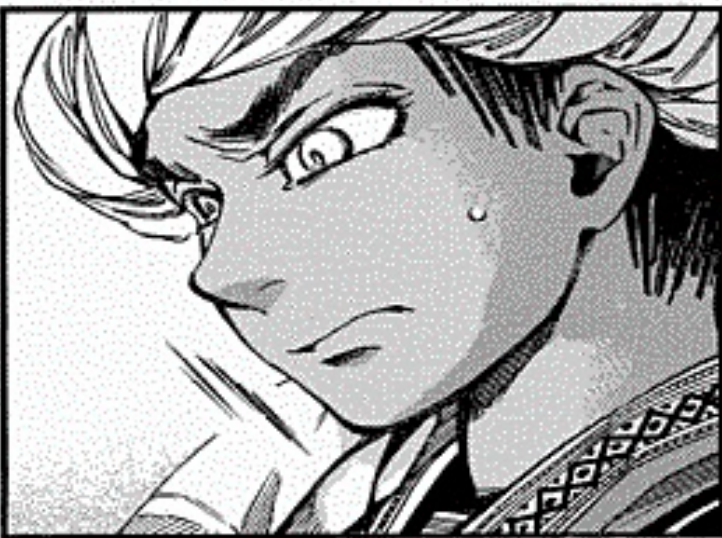
NO! NO
MORE!
I JUST
CAN'T!

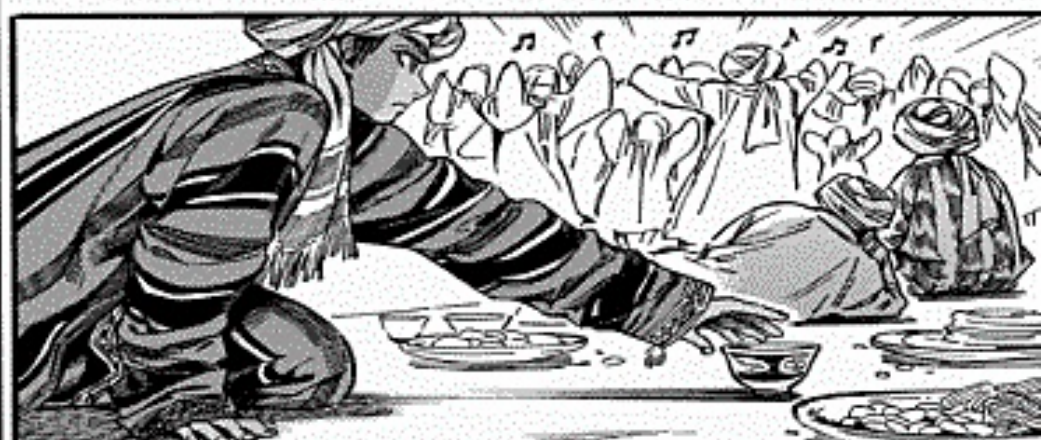
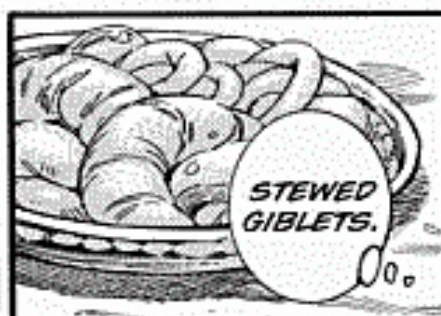
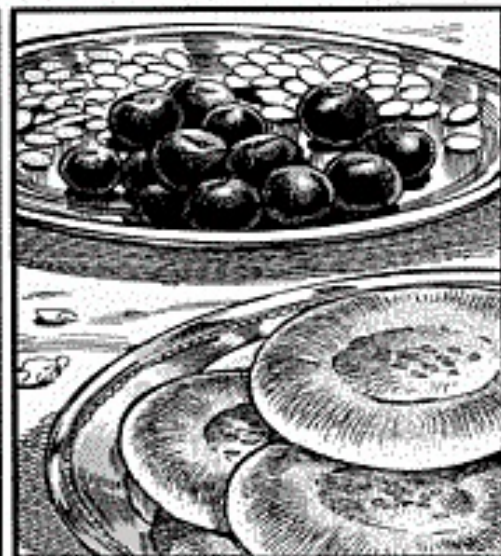
IF I
DON'T GET
OUT RIGHT
NOW, I'LL
GO CRAZY
DURING THE
CEREMONY!

CAN'T
WE WAIT
AT LEAST
UNTIL THE
CEREMONY'S
OVER...?













WHY
DON'T YOU
ALL HAVE
SOMETHING
TO EAT?

IT LOOKS
LIKE IT'LL
TAKE A LITTLE
MORE TIME
UNTIL WE SEE
THE IMAM.



FRIED
DUMP-
LINGS.

I SMELL
SOMETHING
TASTY.
WHAT IS
IT?



SAMI!

HEY,
SAMI!



GIMME!

HURRY
UP!



SASA
(SHUFF)



GET
ONE FOR
ME!

I'M SO
HUNGRY!

CAN'T
YOU HOLD
OUT?





HURRY
UP AND
EAT—



YOU
HAVE TO
EAT TOO,
SARM!



PEOPLE WILL
WORRY IF
THEY FIND
OUT THE
BRIDE
IS GONE!

ONCE
YOU'RE
DONE,
WE'RE
GOING
BACK.

I KNOW
THAT!

BUT WE
HAVE TO
BRING
SOME
BACK FOR
LEILY!



I KNOW!
I KNOW!

DON'T
SPILL
IT ON
YOUR-
SELF!



.....



HMM...

YOU'VE
HAD
PLENTY,
RIGHT?

HAD
ENOUGH
NOW?



GEPU
(BURP)



LAST BUT
NOT LEAST,
I WANT SOME
FRIED SUGAR
BREAD.



NOW
GET
SOME!

I
HAPPEN
TO LIKE
FRIED
SUGAR
BREAD!



THEY ONLY
SERVE IT AT
WEDDINGS,
RIGHT?

YOU'RE
STILL
NOT
DONE?



AH!

I WENT
AND
ATE
AHEAD
OF
YOU!

SORRY,
LEILY!

AND I
FORGOT
TO BRING
SOME
BACK FOR
YOU!

OH,
DON'T
WORRY,
LAILA.

I JUST
HAD
SOME
FOOD
TOO.



LAILA?

YOU
BACK?



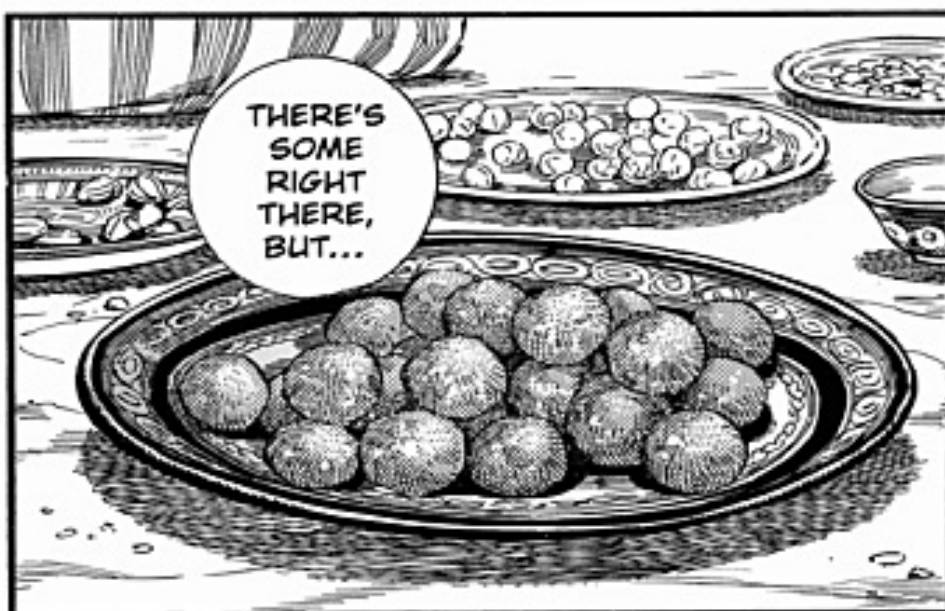
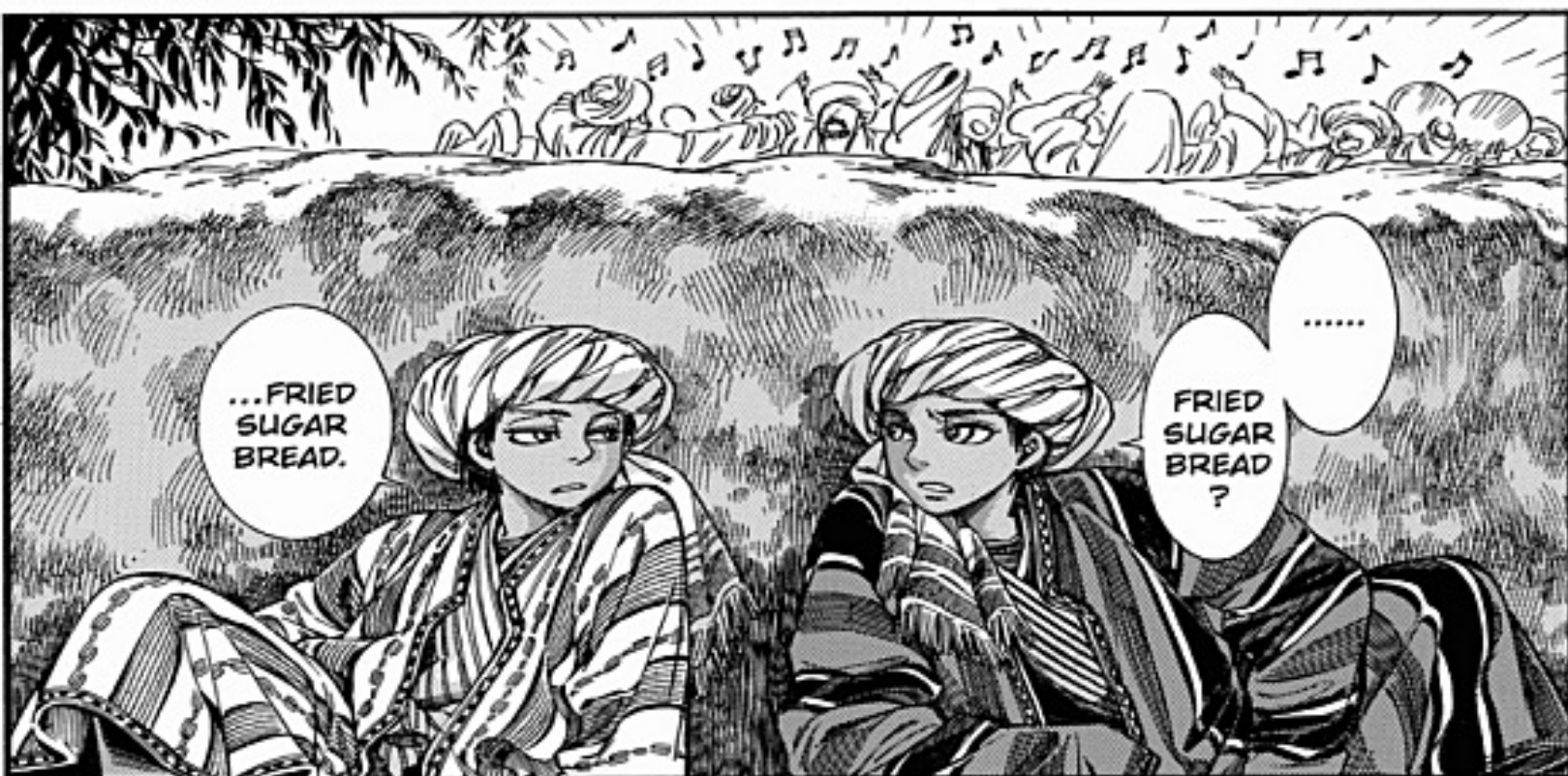
...BUT
IN EX-
CHANGE,
YOU GO
BACK
NOW!

OKAY!
I'LL GET
SOME...



AND
COVER
UP!

BOFU
(WHIMP)



...THAT
IT'S ALWAYS
GOING TO BE
ME DOING
WHATEVER
LEILY SAYS.

I GET THE
FEELING...

ISN'T
THAT A
LITTLE
UNFAIR?

...IT'D
BE
REALLY
WEIRD,
HUH?

IF WE
WENT OUT
TO TRY
TO GET
SOME...

WE'LL
BE
YELLED
AT FOR
SURE.

SHE
JUST
GOES ON
AND ON!

BUT IT'S
TRUE,
RIGHT?

...FOR
SURE,
BUT...

I DON'T
KNOW...

...IT
ISN'T
ABOUT
THAT.

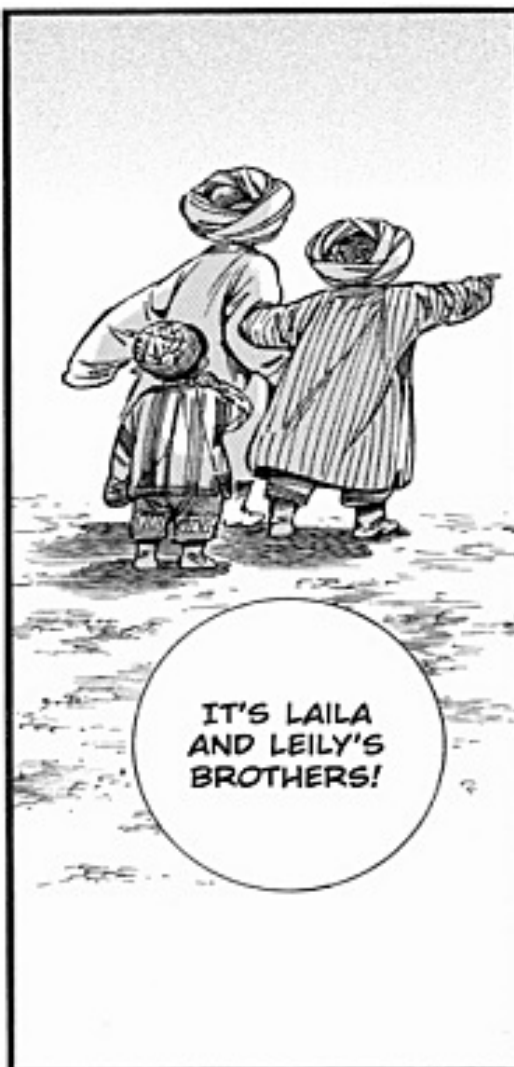
...ABOUT
"FAIR" OR
"UNFAIR."

I DON'T
THINK
IT'S...

THEN
WHAT
IS IT
ABOUT?

SAMI, YOU
KNOW...

...YOU
SHOULDN'T
BE SAYING
STUFF LIKE
THAT.



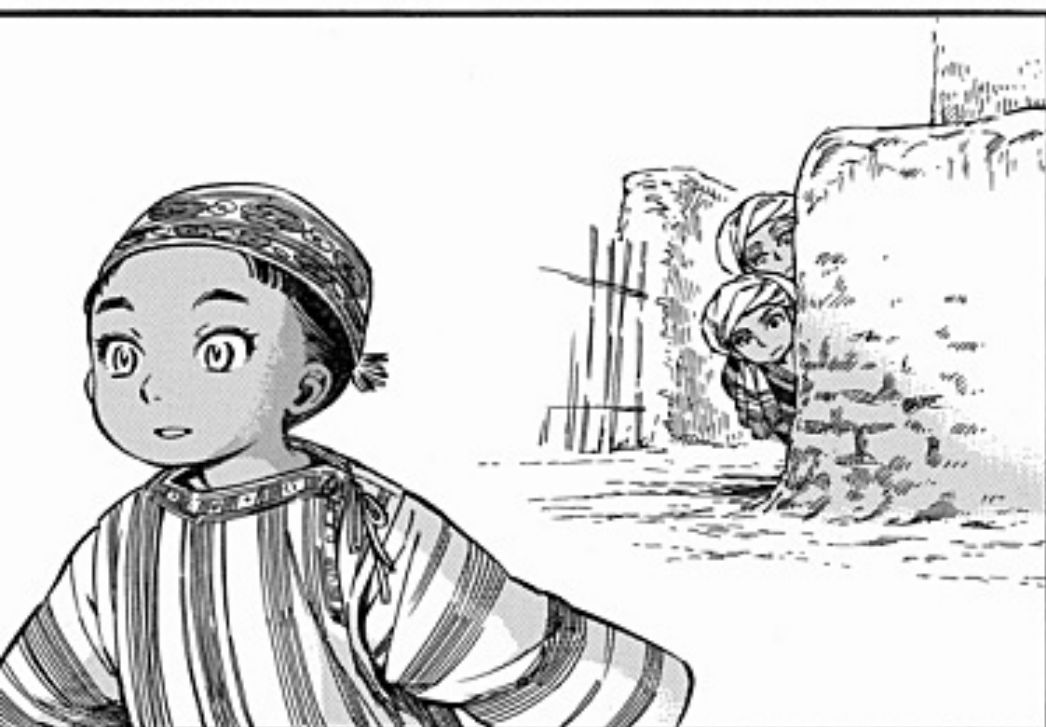
IT'S LAILA
AND LEILY'S
BROTHERS!

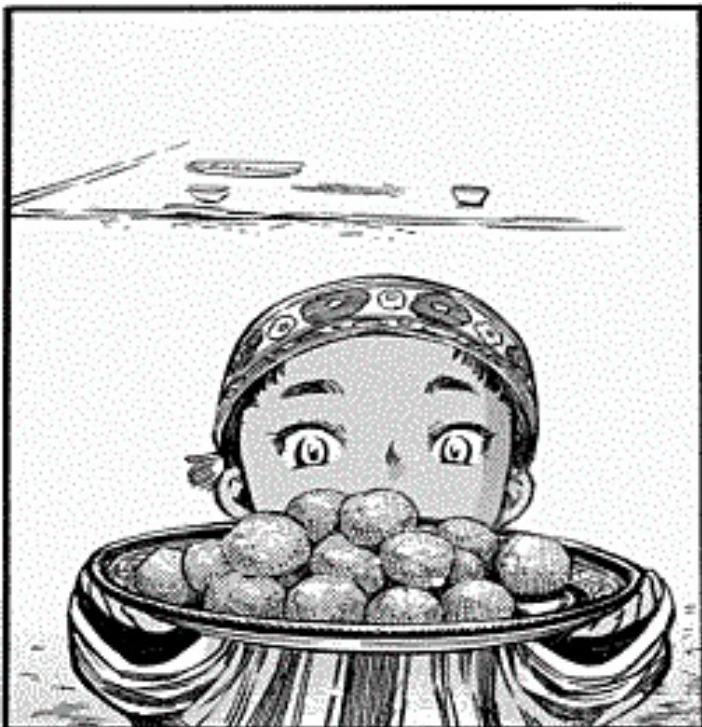


IT'S
JUST NOT
ABOUT
THAT...



OVER
HERE!
OVER
HERE!







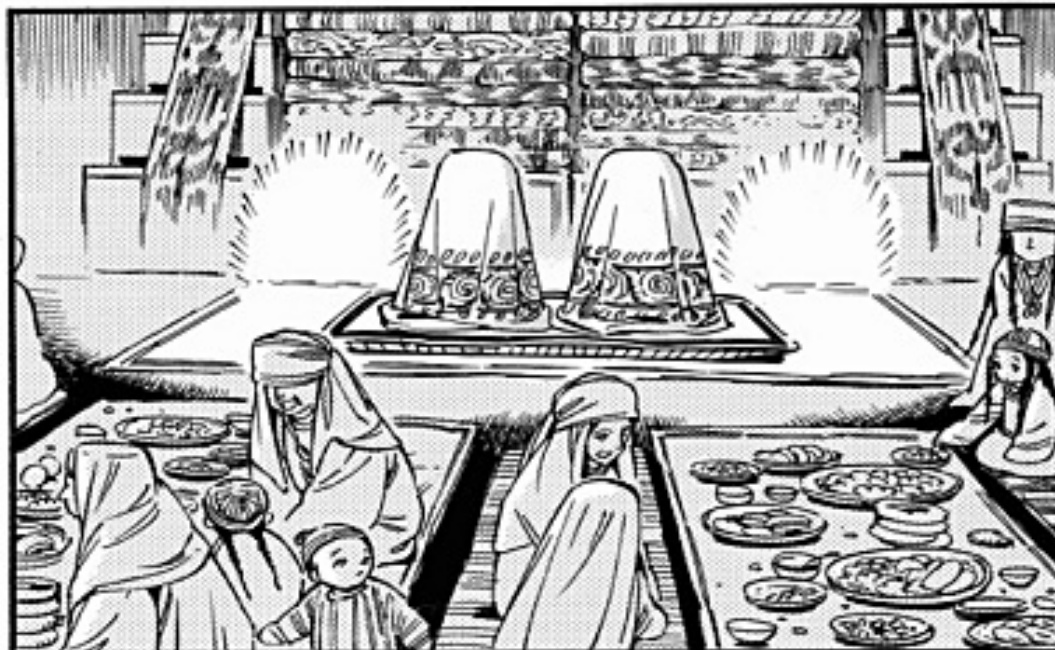
SFX: MOKU CHUNCHED MOKU MOKU MOKU MOKU MOKU MOKU





RIGHT.

I'M
GOING
BACK IN
FOR A
BIT.



HASN'T
THE IMAM
SHOWN
UP YET?

HE NEVER
SEEMS TO
GET HERE.



LEILY?

LAILA?

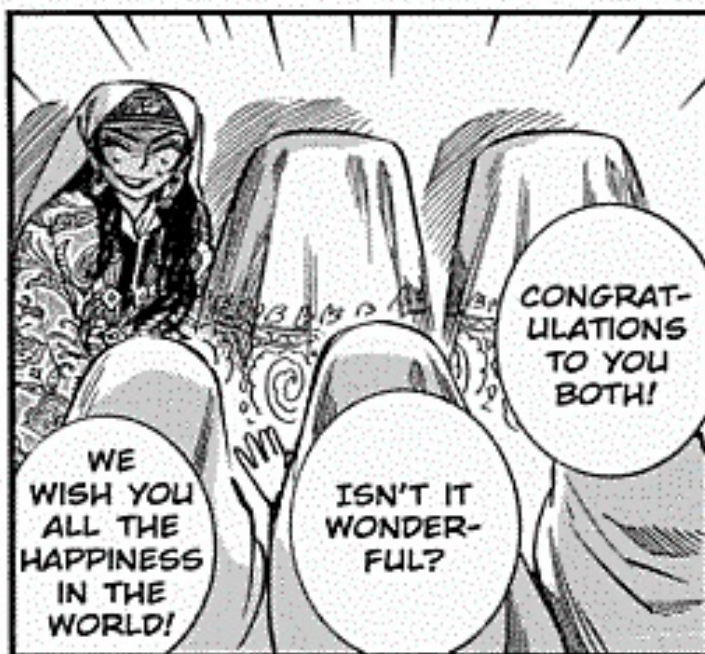
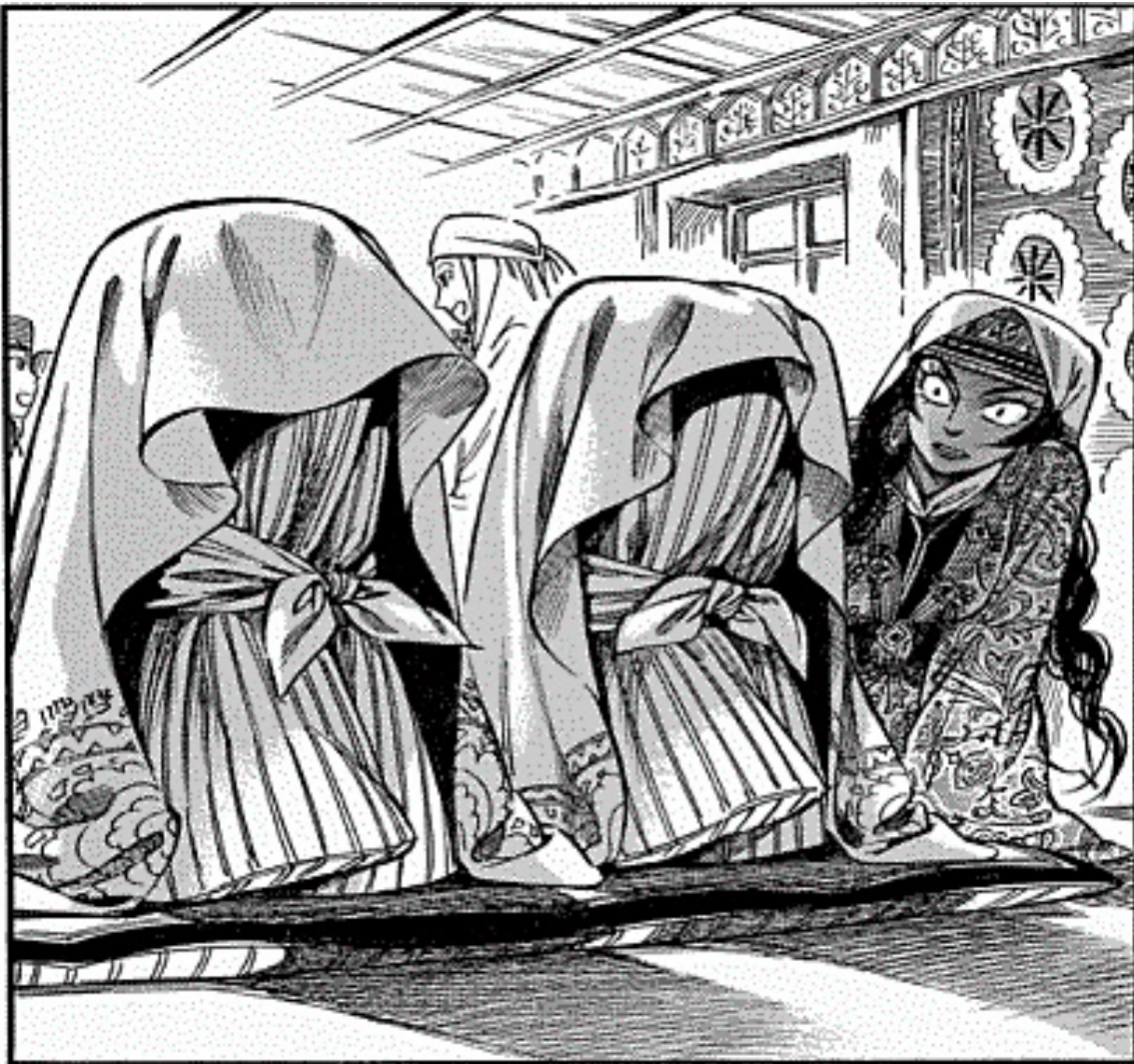
WHAT'S
THE MATTER
WITH YOU
TWO?



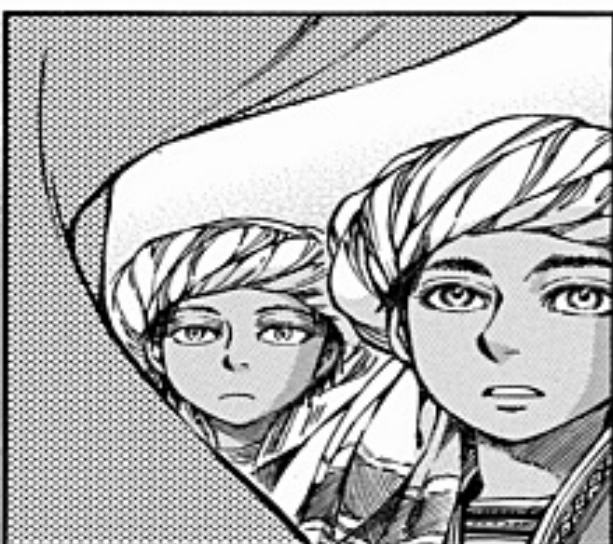
WHERE
DID THE
GROOMS
GO?

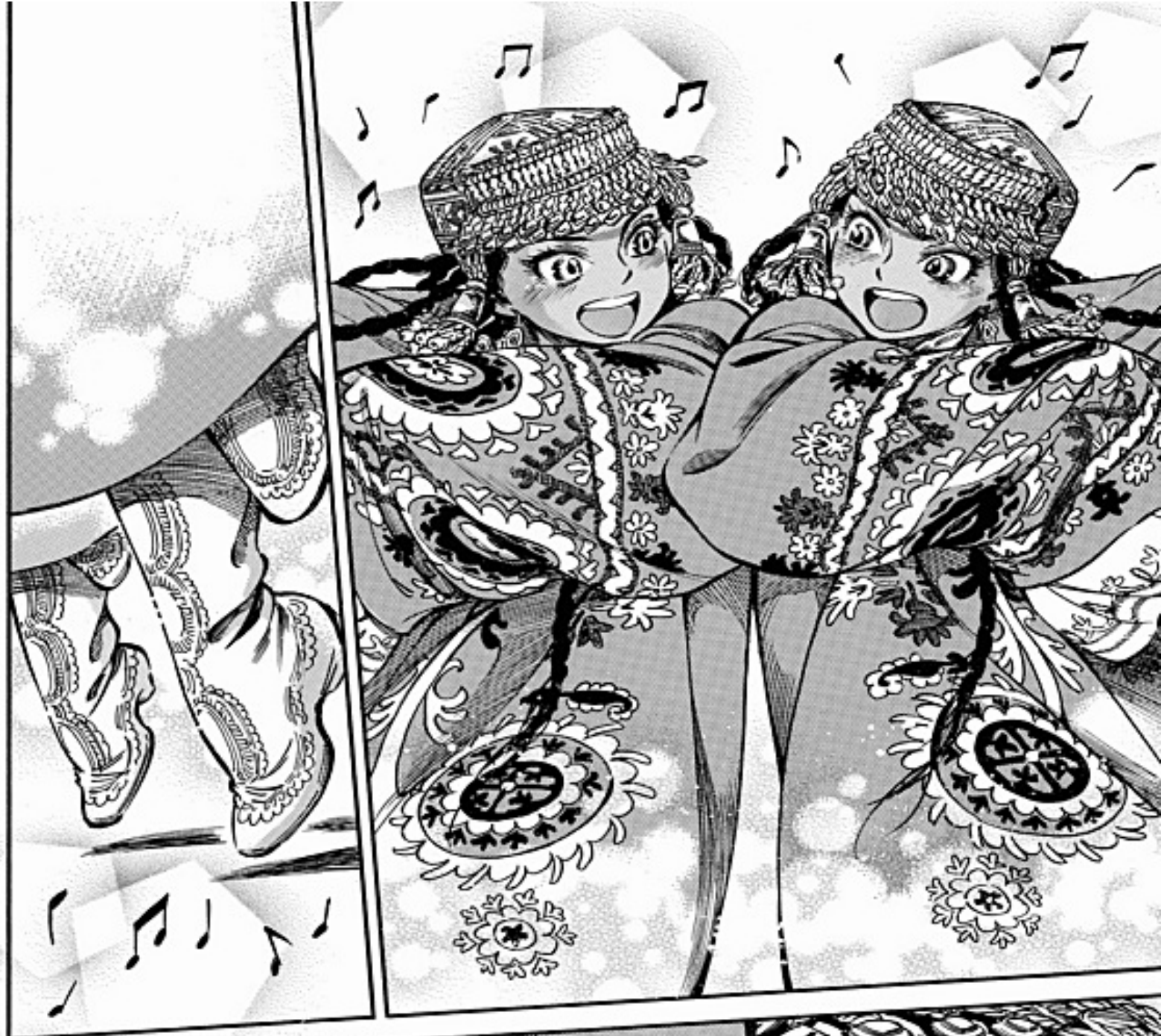
HEY,
YOU
TWO!



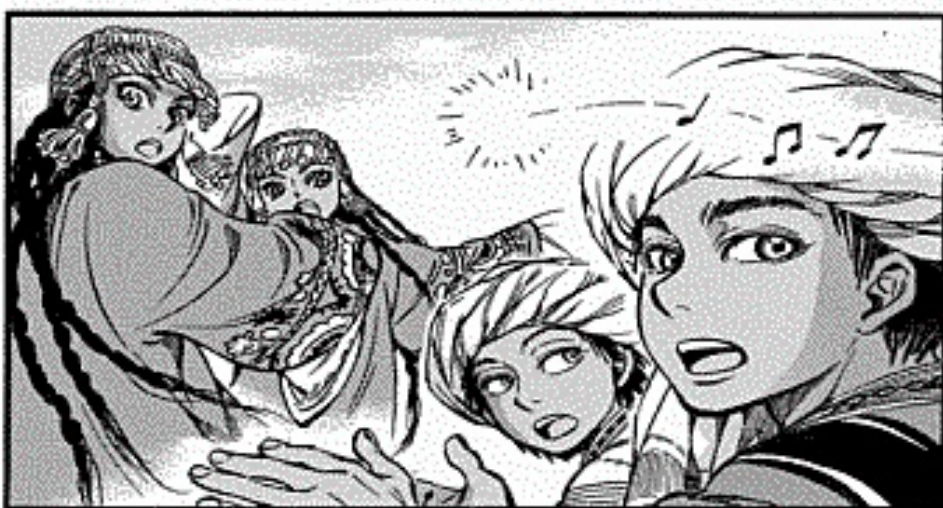
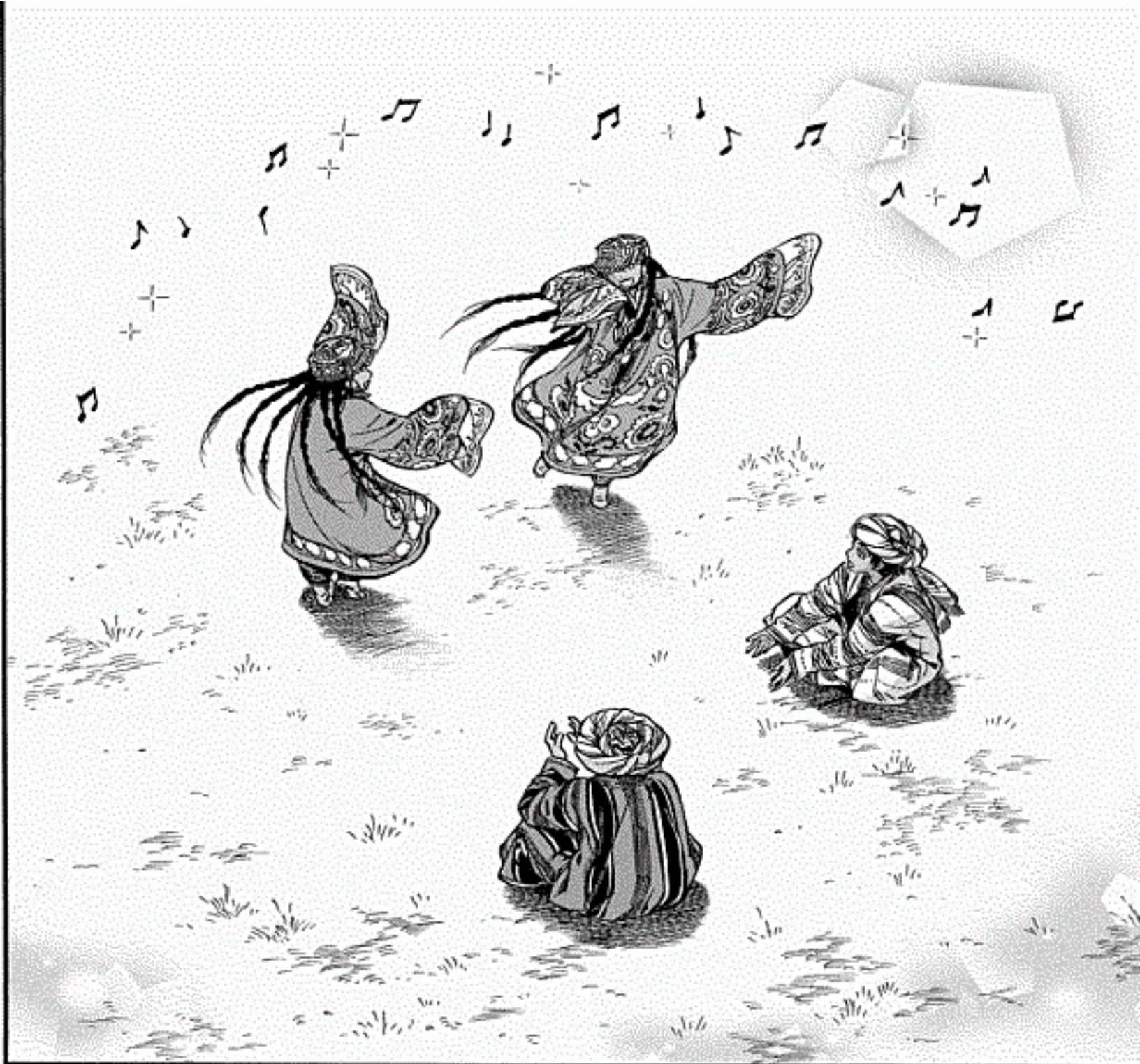


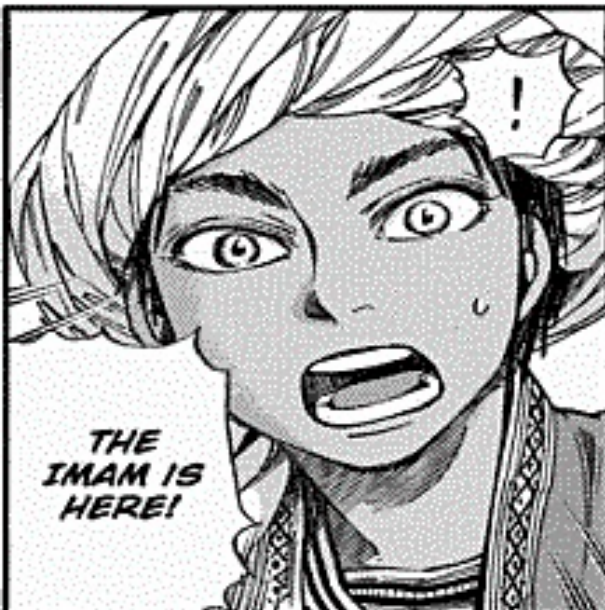














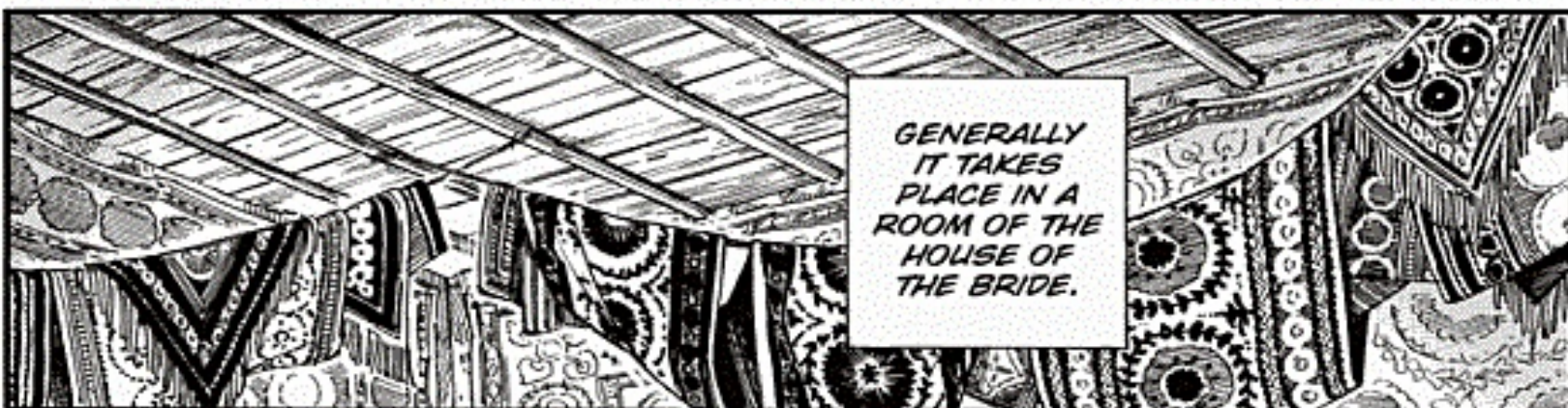




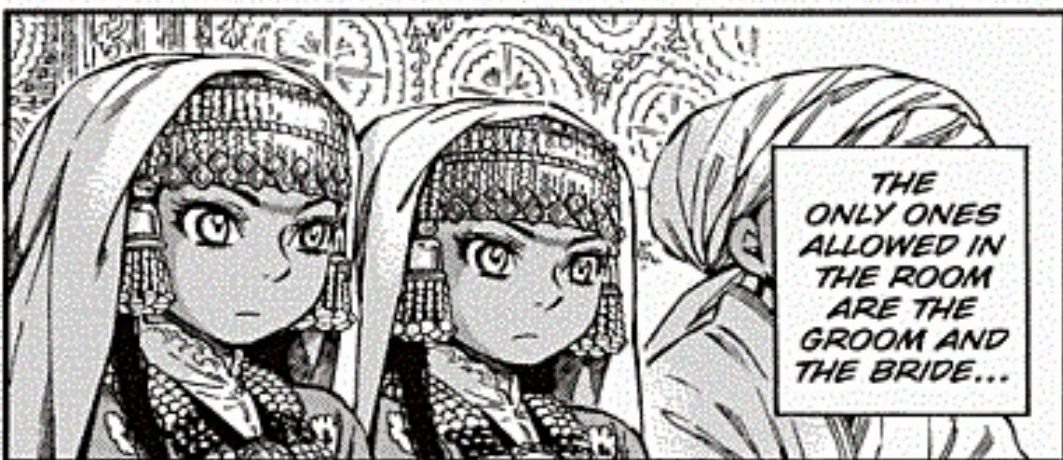


THE
WEDDING
CEREMONY.

◆ CHAPTER 25 ◆



GENERALLY
IT TAKES
PLACE IN A
ROOM OF THE
HOUSE OF
THE BRIDE.



THE
ONLY ONES
ALLOWED IN
THE ROOM
ARE THE
GROOM AND
THE BRIDE...



...AND AN
UNCLE
FROM EACH
FAMILY
STANDS WITH
THEM AS
WITNESSES.





FIRST,
THE COUPLE
PLACES
THEIR HANDS
ON THE
KORAN TO
SAY THEIR
VOWS.



AT LAST,
THE IMAM
CONDUCTS
THE
CEREMONY.

PLEASE,
EVERYONE,
RELAX.



THEN
THEY EAT
VARIOUS
MEATS
AND
BREADS
...



...AND
SHARE
DRINKS
FROM
A CUP
OF SALT
WATER.



THE SAME
IS DONE
OVER THE
BRIDE.



AFTER THAT,
THE IMAM
SPRINKLES
BLESSINGS
AND WHEAT
FLOUR
OVER
THE GROOM.

CEREMONIES HAVE RULES. GIVE IT UP!

I'M REALLY NOT ALLOWED TO SEE IT?

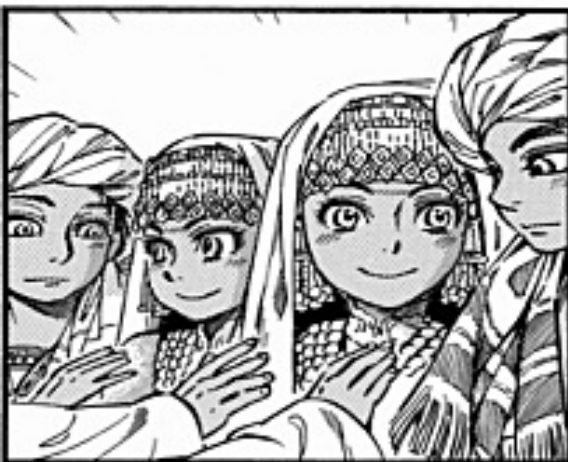
IF THEY ARE JOINED AS MAN AND WIFE THIS WAY...

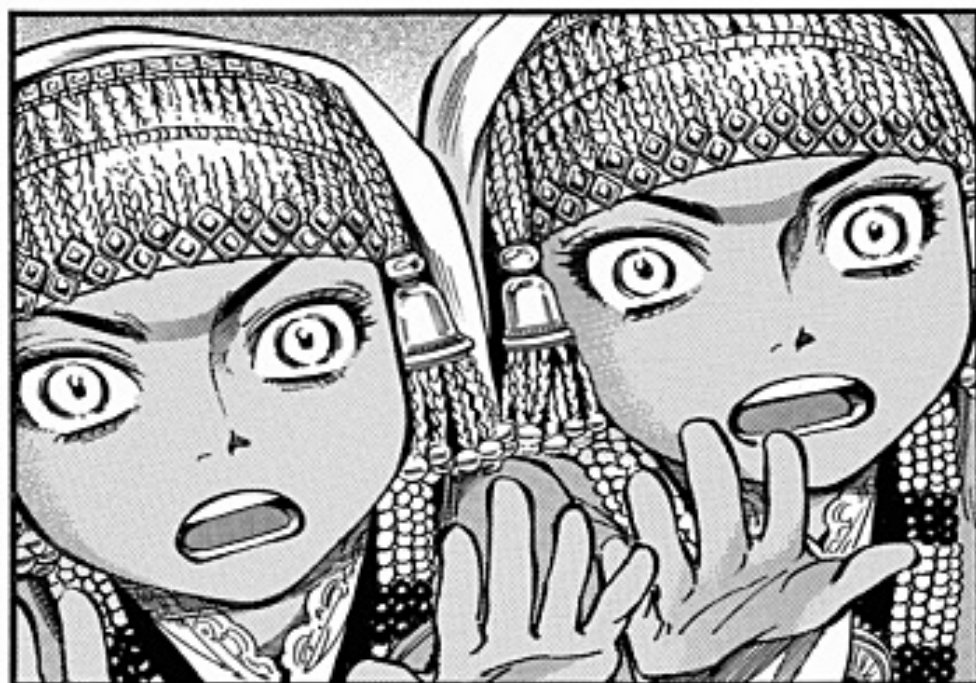
...THEY SAY THE DEPTH OF LOVE INCREASES, BRINGING WITH IT A LIFETIME OF HAPPINESS.

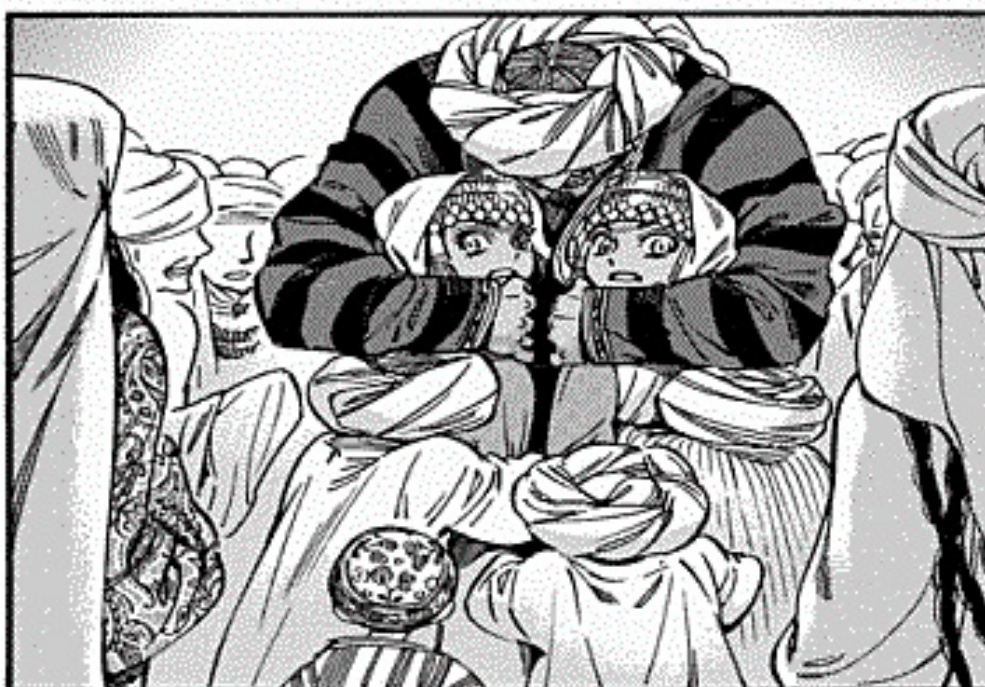
AND GREET THE EYES OF YOUR NEIGHBORS.

NOW, COME ON OUT.

?
MAYBE IT'S OVER?









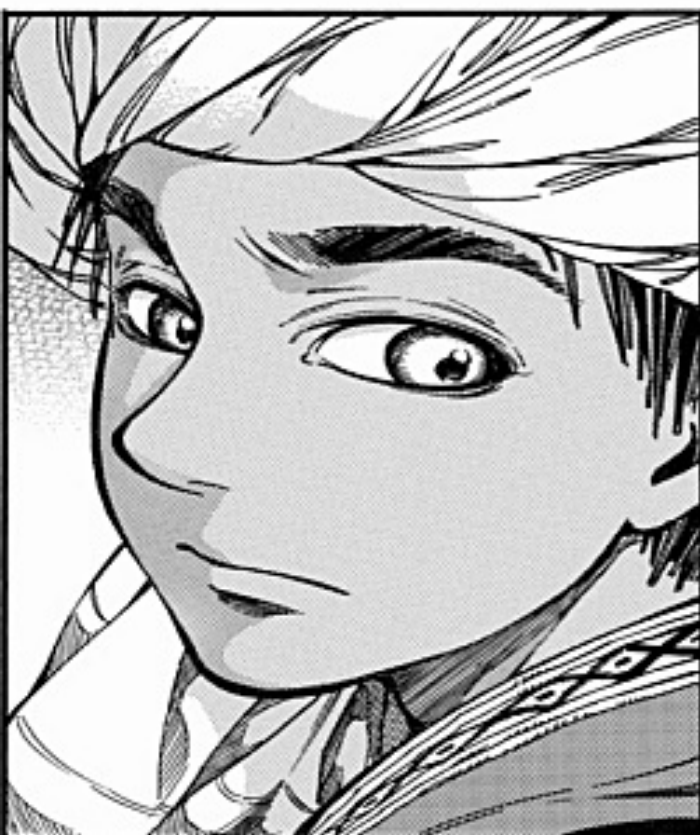
WHEN WE
CAME, WE
TOOK A LAP
AROUND
THE
VILLAGE.

SO
LET'S
DO THE
SAME ON
THE WAY
BACK!

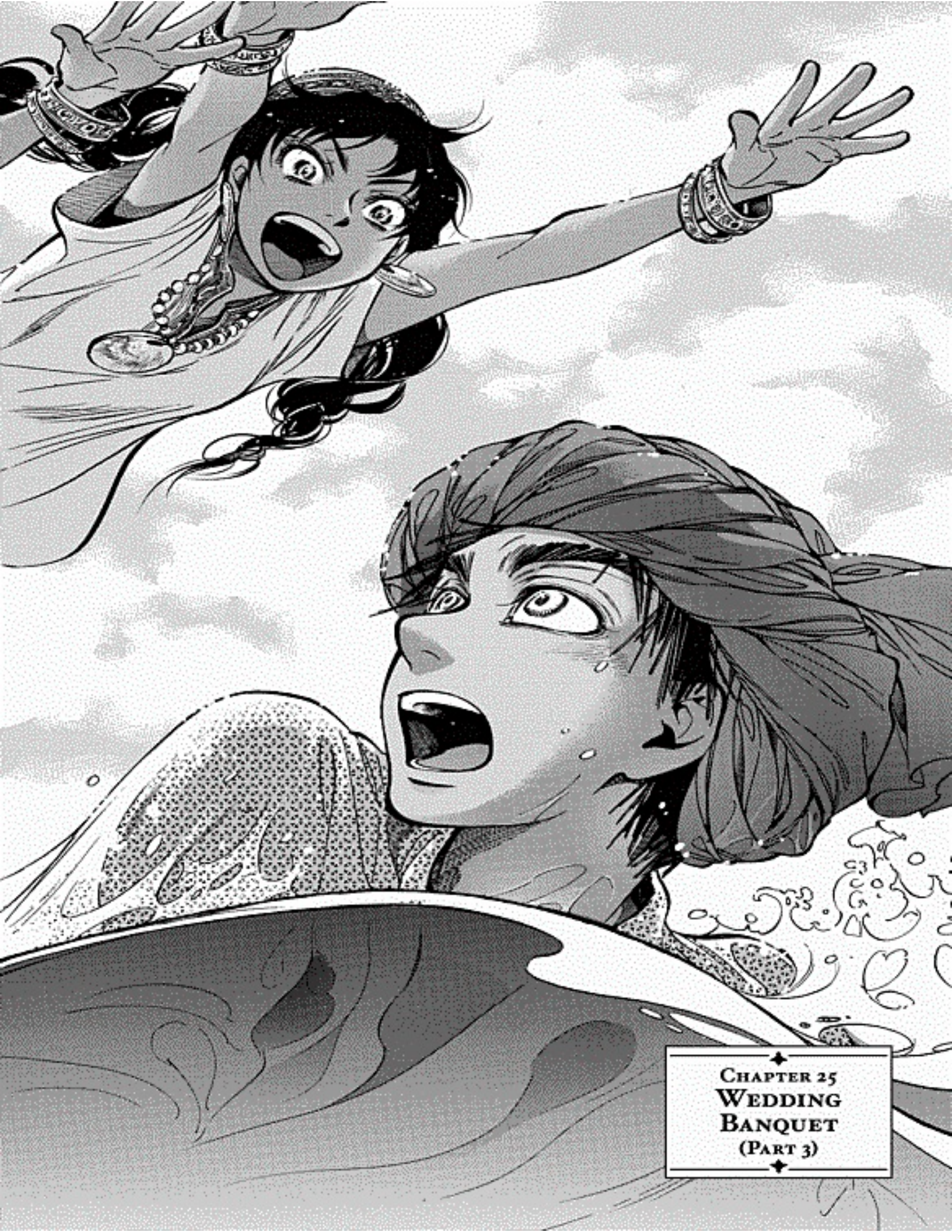


EVERYONE,
COME
WITH US!

NOW,
LET'S
ALL HEAD
BACK!

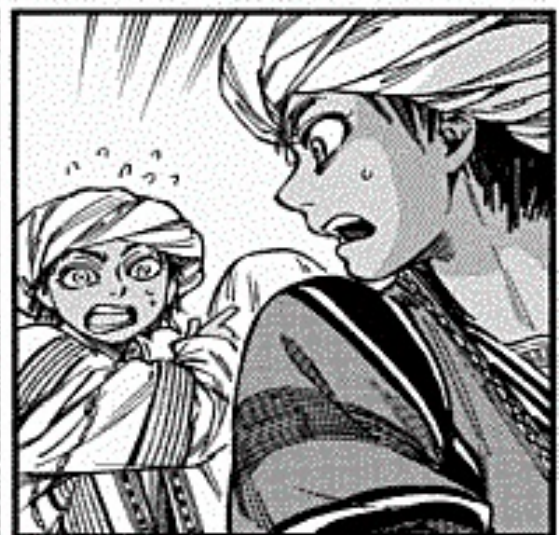
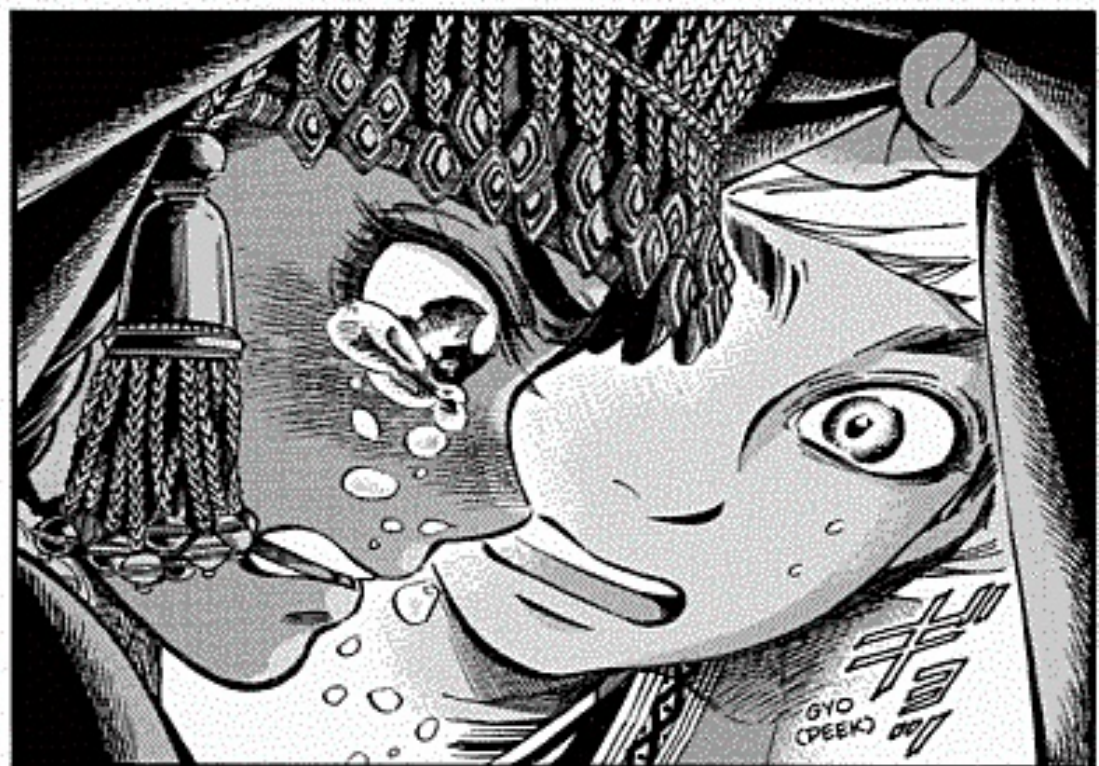
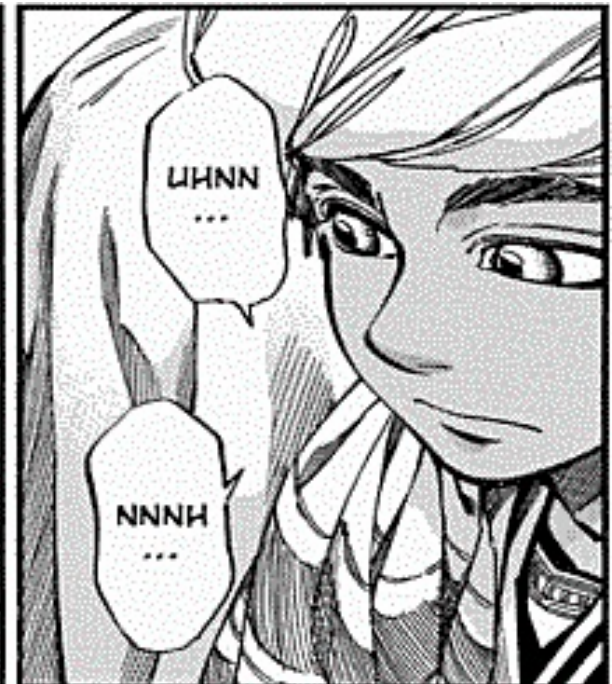


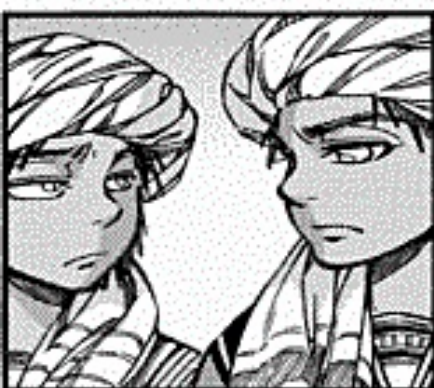
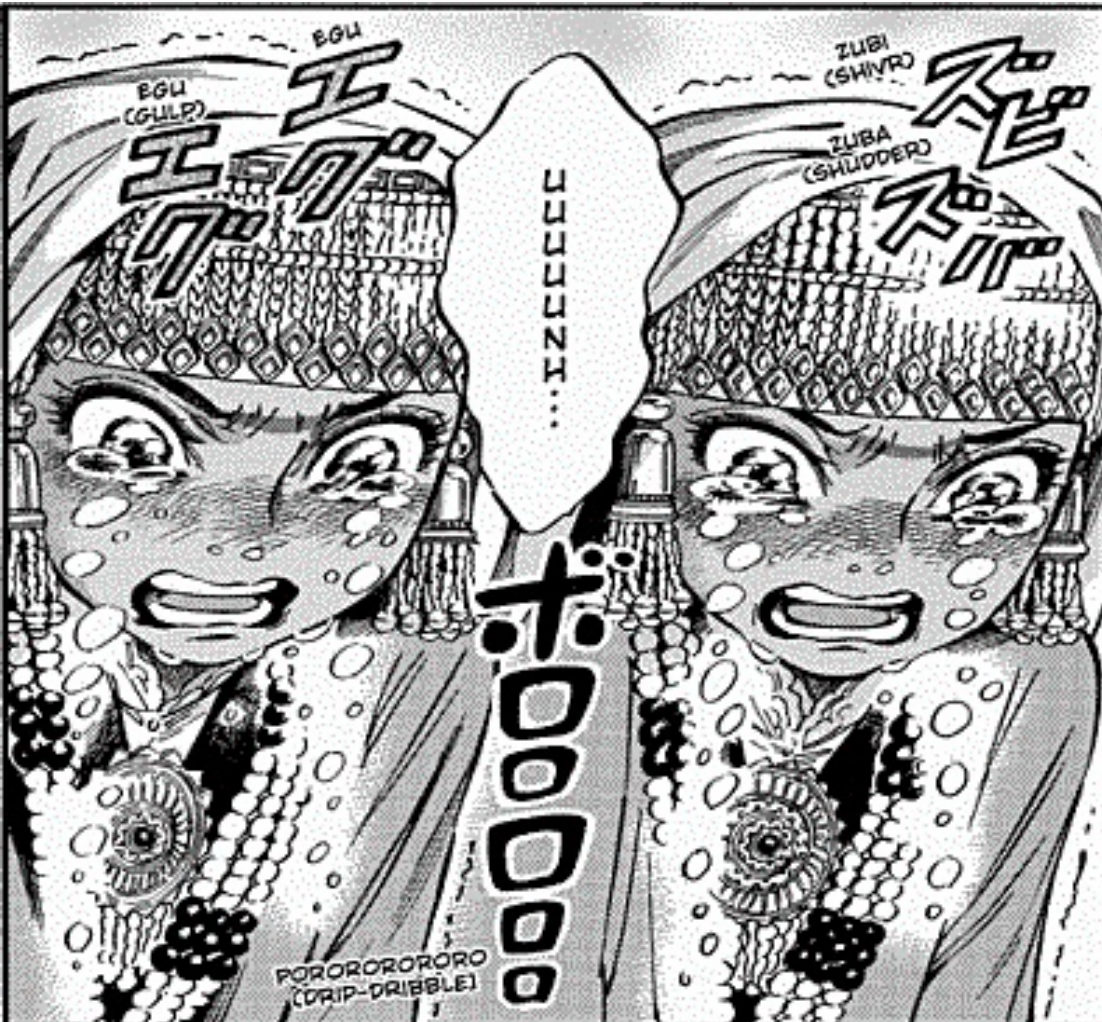




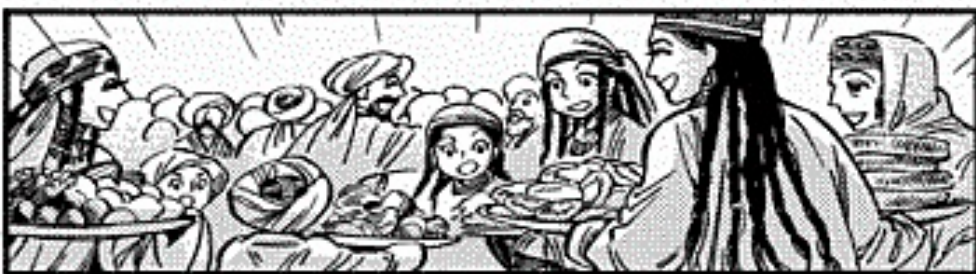
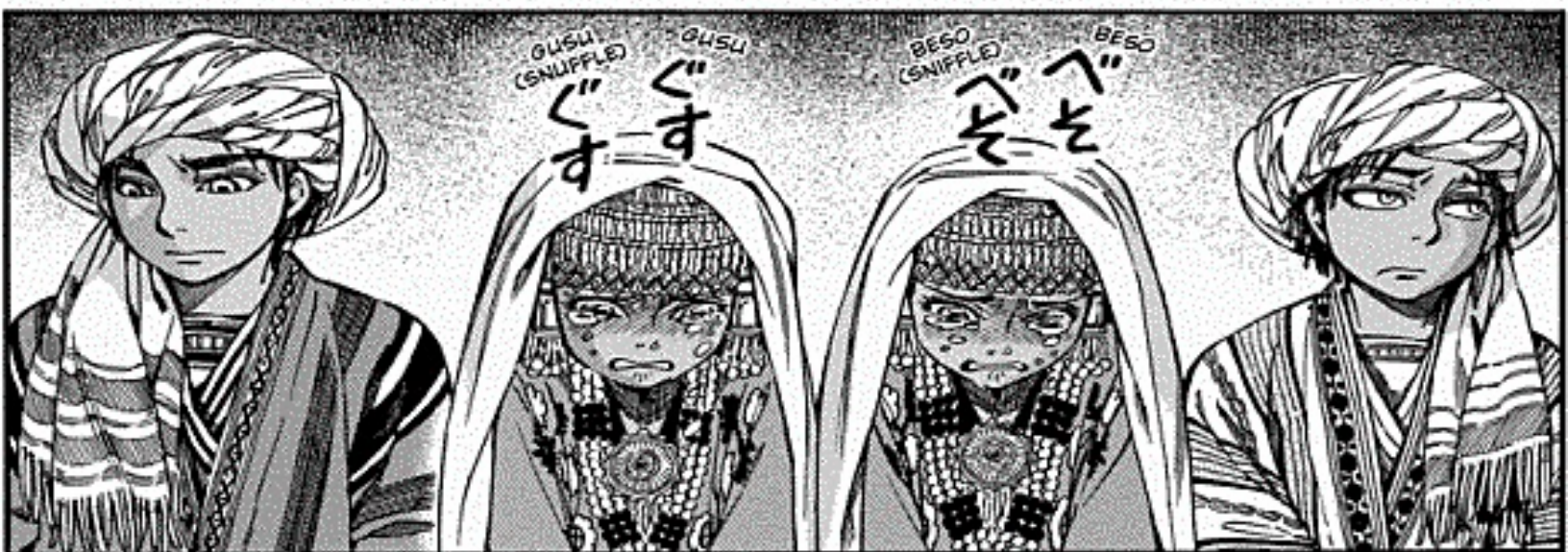
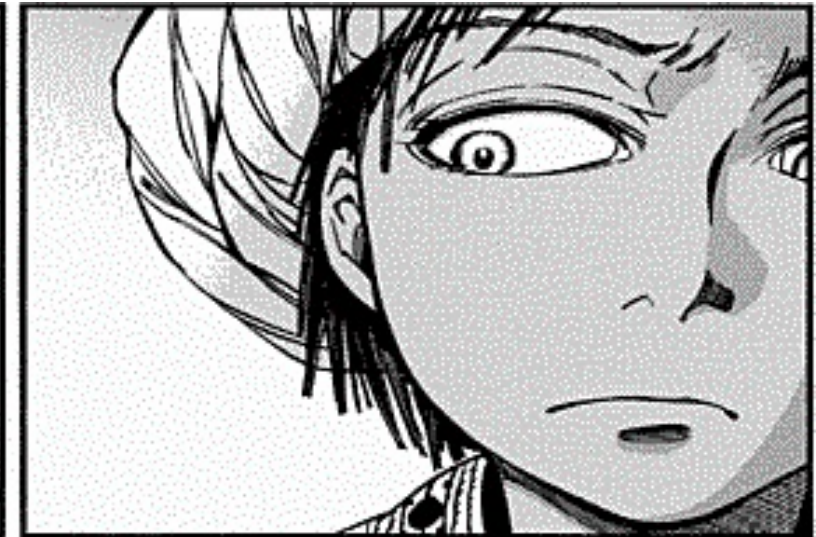
◆
CHAPTER 25
WEDDING
BANQUET
(PART 3)
◆



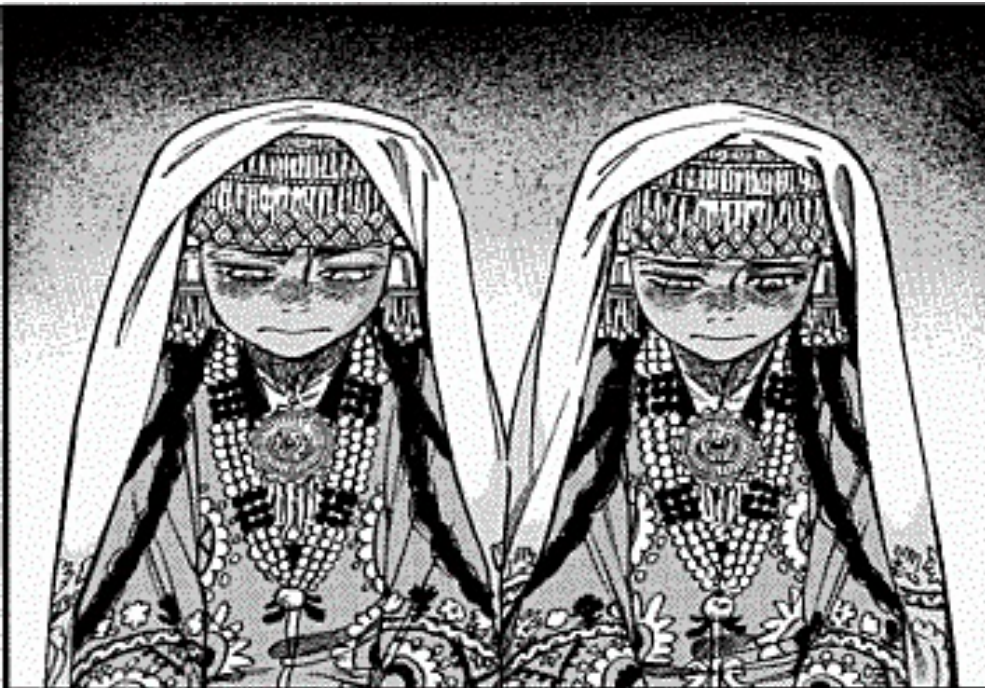








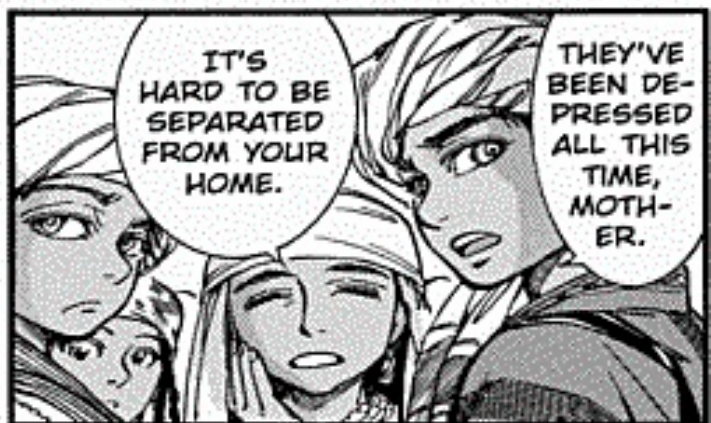




EVEN I
FELT LONELY
WHEN I
WENT OUT
ON MY
OWN.

BUT
THEY'LL
BE ALL
RIGHT.

EVERYONE
FEELS THAT
WAY AT
FIRST.



IT'S
HARD TO BE
SEPARATED
FROM YOUR
HOME.

THEY'VE
BEEN DE-
PRESSED
ALL THIS
TIME,
MOTH-
ER.



OH!

IT LOOKS
LIKE THE
FRIED RICE
IS DONE.



THIS IS A
POINT WHERE
YOU CAN DEM-
ONSTRATE YOUR
CAPABILITY AS
HUSBANDS.

YES,
BUT
THINK.

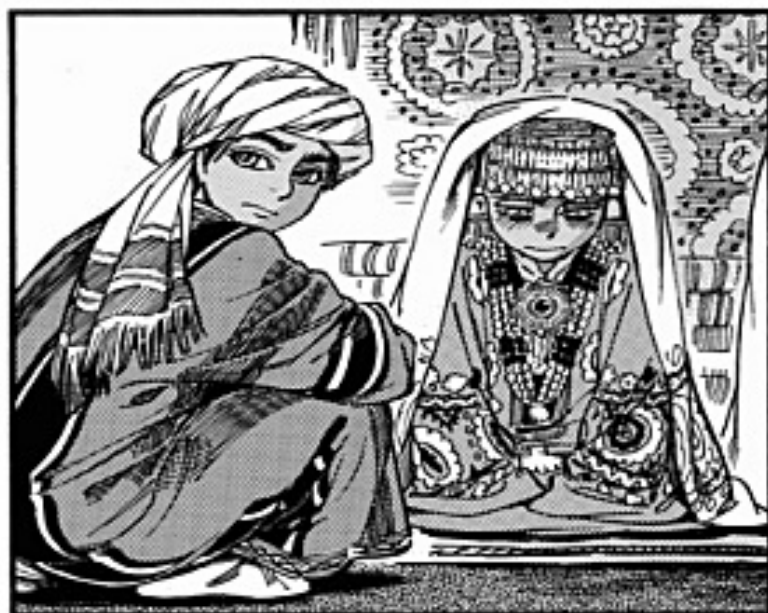


HA!

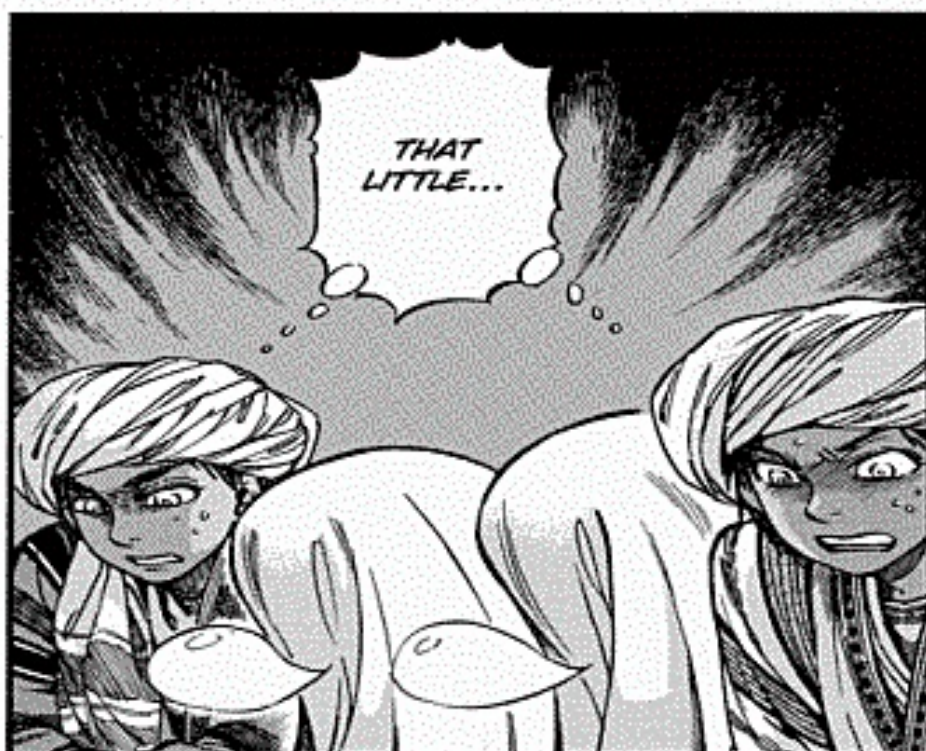
GO
ON!

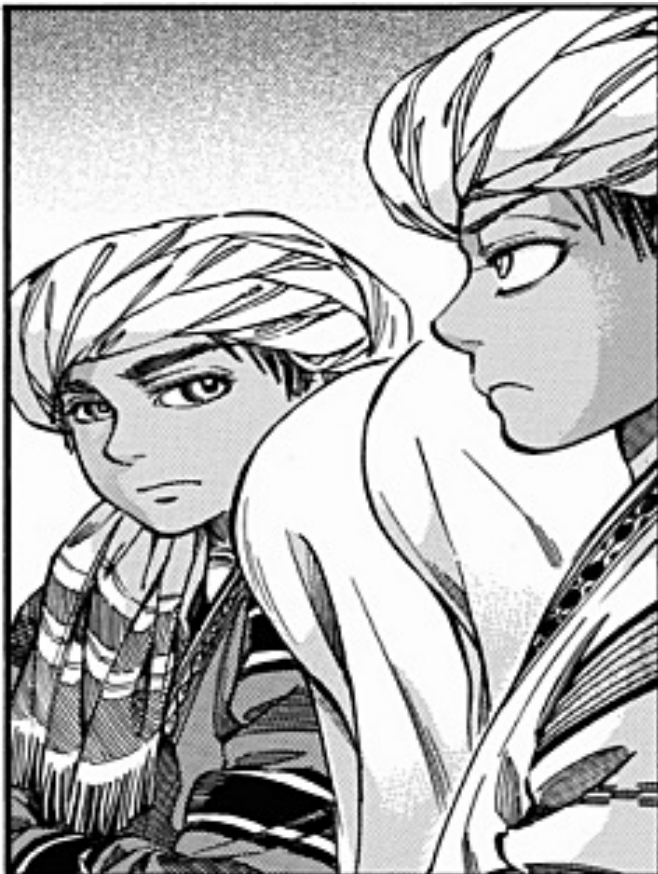
HA! HA! HA! HA!

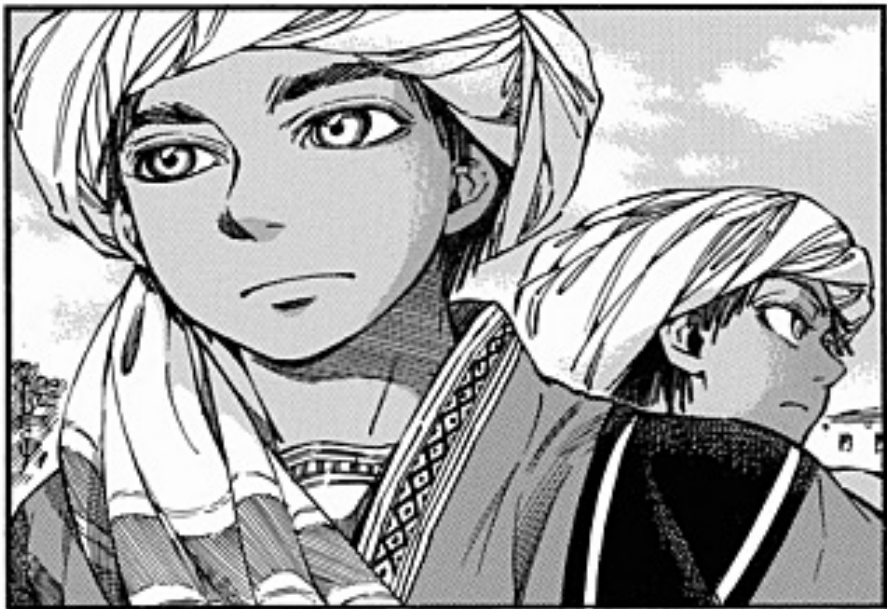
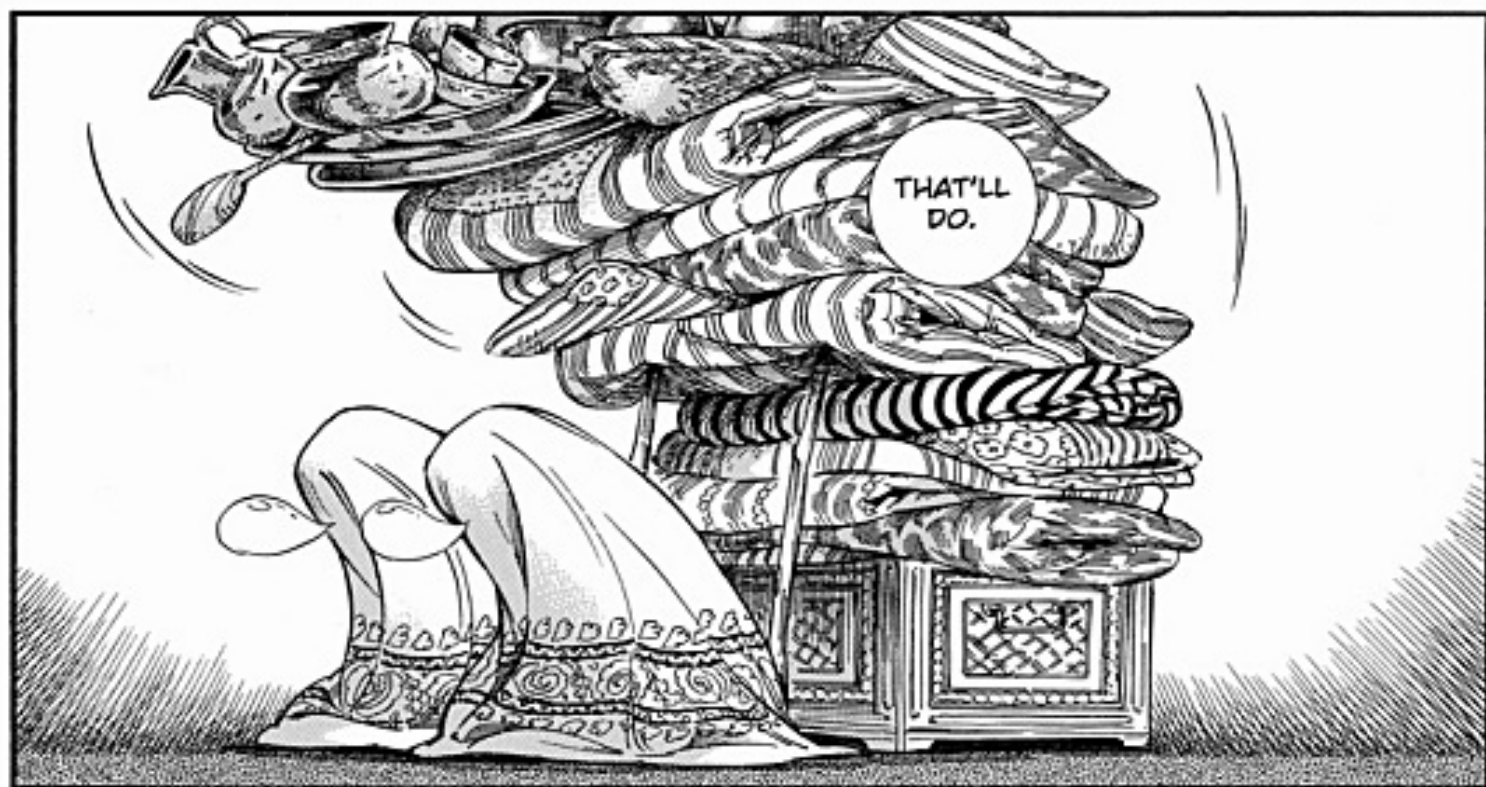
MAKE
'EM FALL
SO HARD
FOR YOU
THEY FORGET
THEIR LONE-
LINESS!

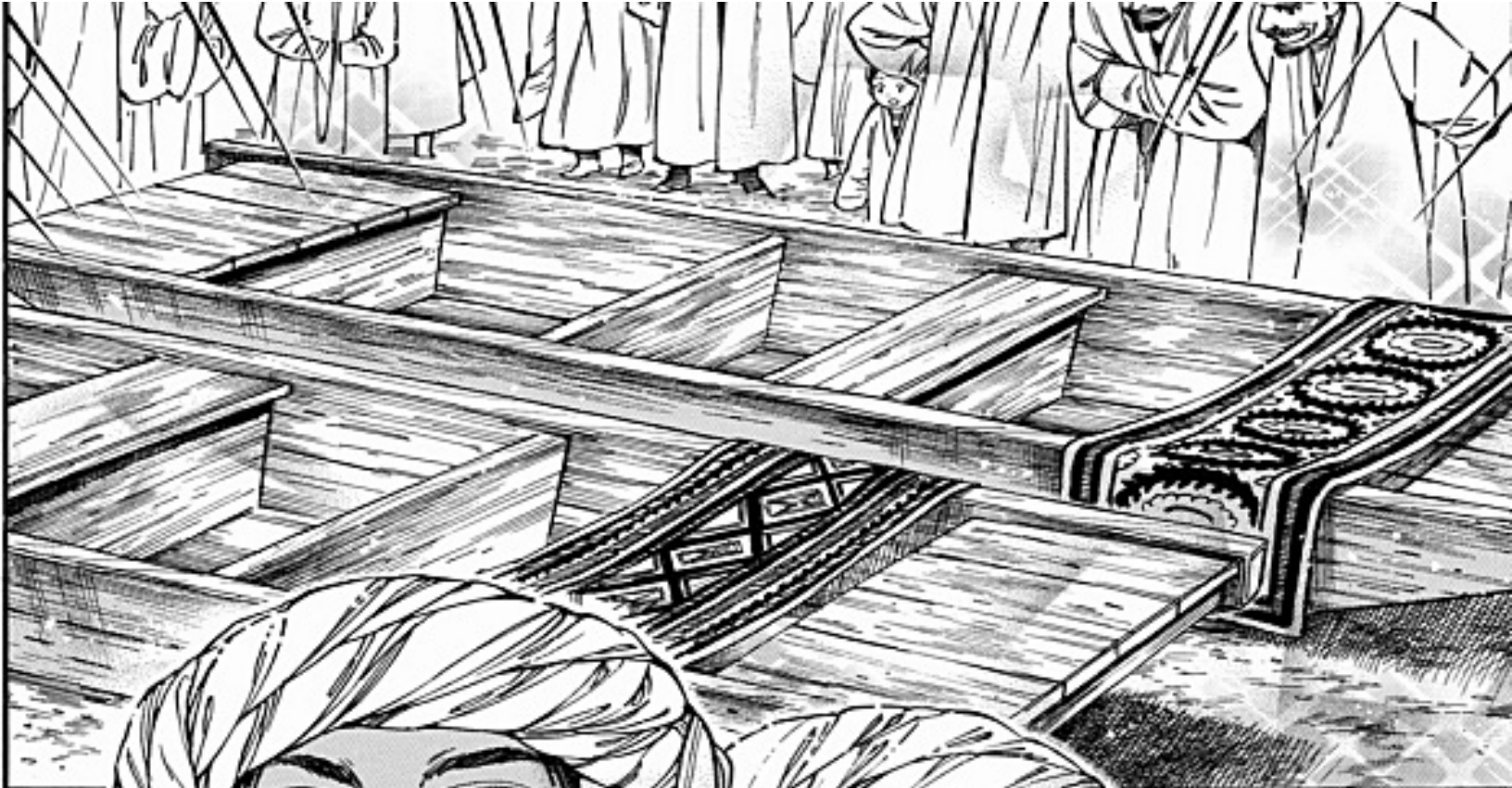


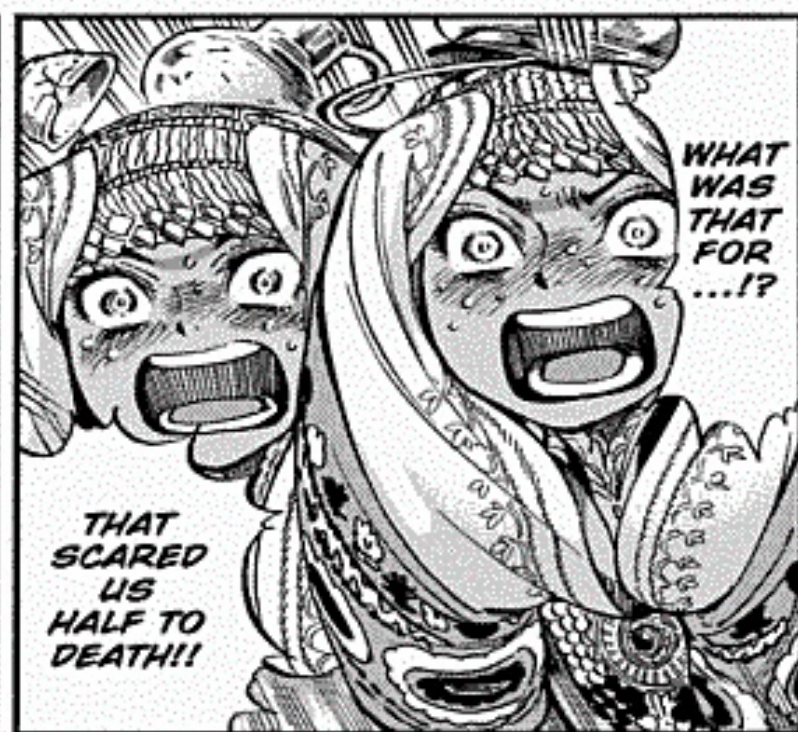


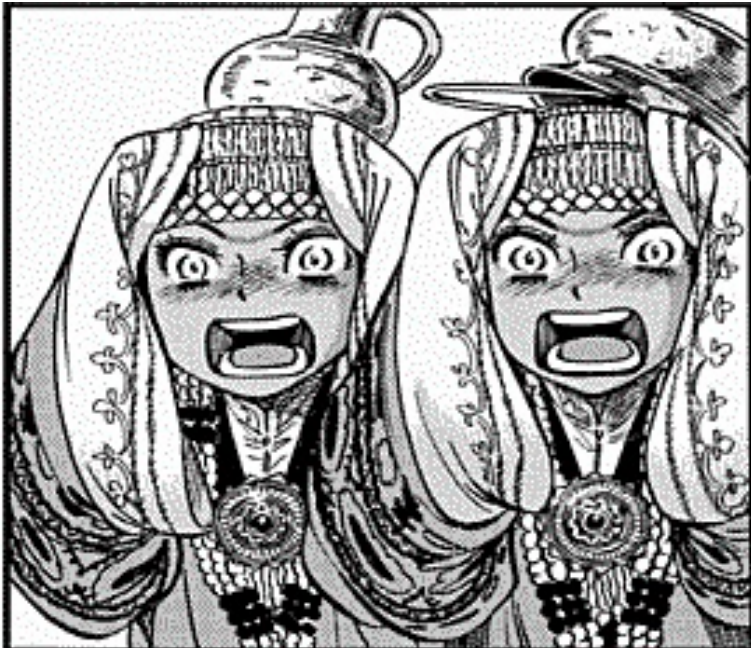


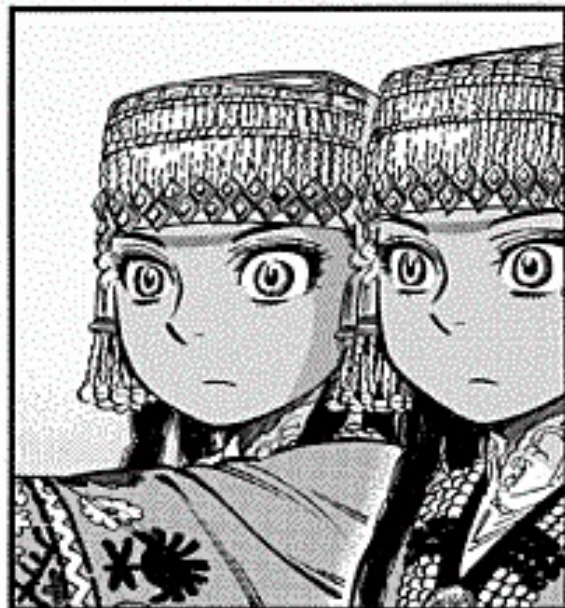
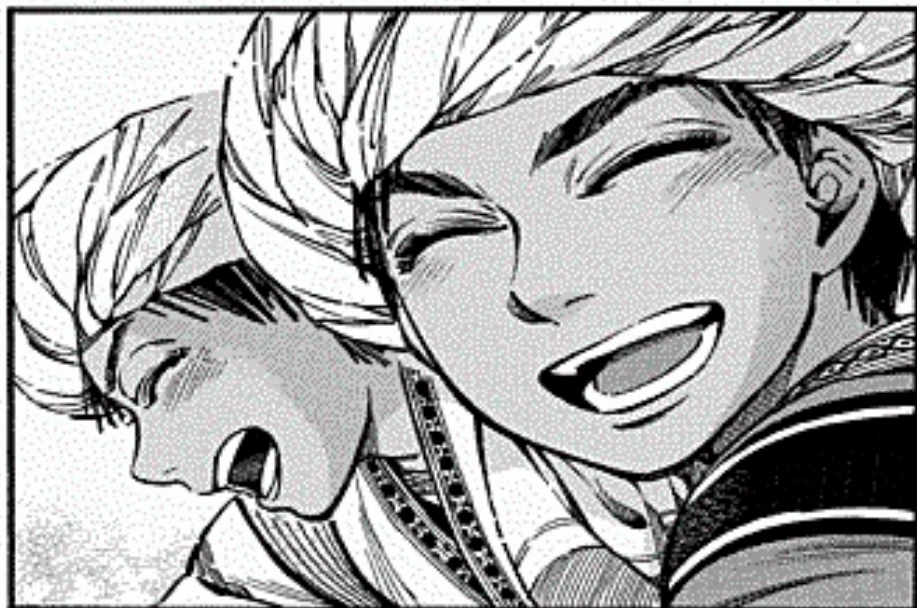


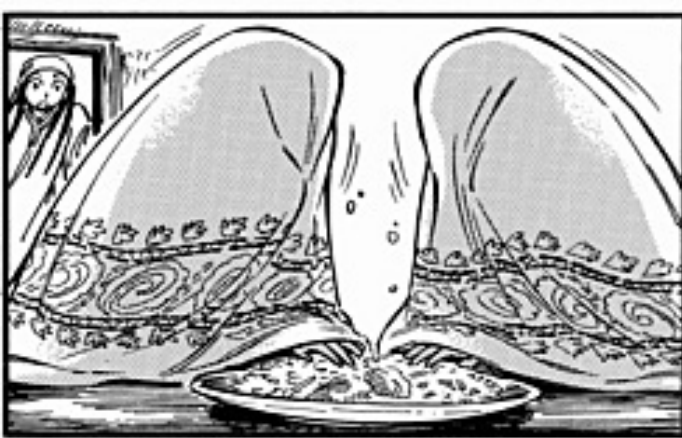


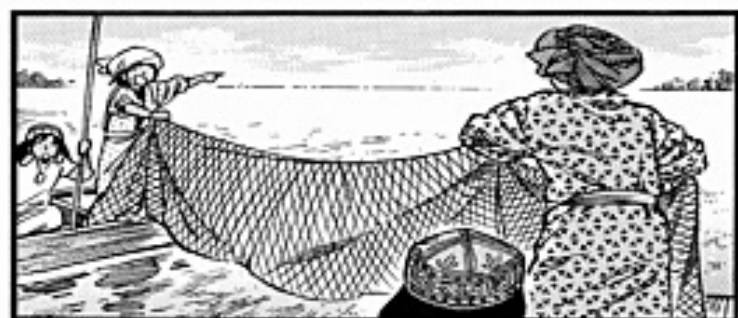


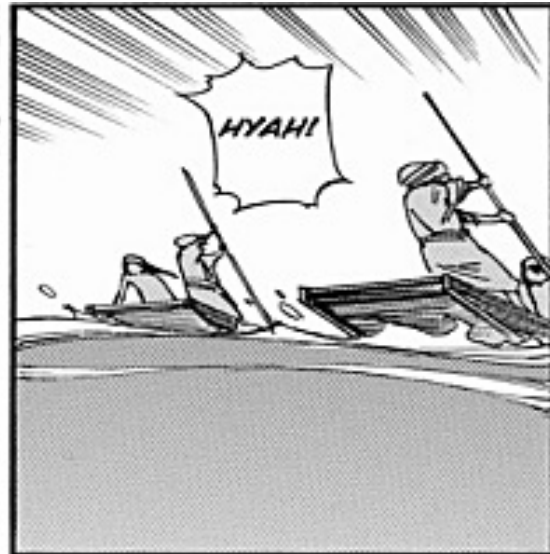
















SO THAT
WOULD
MEAN...



EVERY
NOW AND
THEN WE
COULD GO
TO THE
FARAWAY
MARKET...

...AND
SELL
THEM FOR
AN EVEN
BETTER
PRICE,
HUH?

WE'LL BE
DROWNING
IN MONEY.



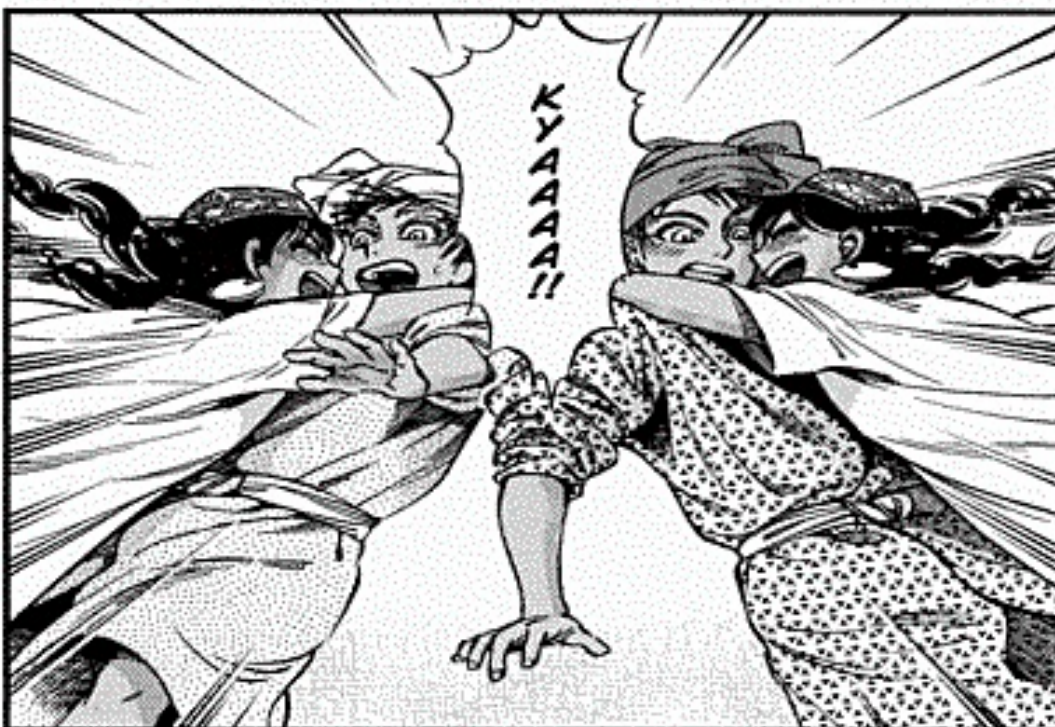
SO
MAYBE
...

...MAYBE
IF WE'RE
ABLE TO
CATCH
AND SELL
THIS
MUCH
EVERY
DAY...

...WE'LL
MAKE
EVEN
MORE?



...WE'RE
GOING TO
BE RICH!



KYAAAA!!



WELL?

HAVE WE
STARTED TO
MEASURE
UP IN YOUR
EYES?





AND I WANT
A PEACOCK,
A TIGER, AND
A MONKEY
AS PETS!!

NO...
LET'S
SKIP THE
TIGER,
OKAY?



HEY,
SARM!
I WANT
A BIG
HOUSE!

YOU
ARE
GETTING
WAY
AHEAD
OF
YOUR-
SELF.



...AND
SING AND
DANCE...

AND
WE'LL
CALL IN
MUSICIANS
EVERY
DAY...



...AND
WE'LL
ALL LIVE
HAPPILY
EVER
AFTER!!



WHAT'S THAT?



ALL RIGHT.

TIME FOR US TO MOVE ON.



IF THEY FIND US AGAIN, THEY'LL DRAG US RIGHT BACK.

AH, PERHAPS ...

...PERHAPS YOU'RE RIGHT.



EH?

RIGHT AT THIS MOMENT?

WE'RE TAKING OFF.

HERE'RE YOUR BAGS.

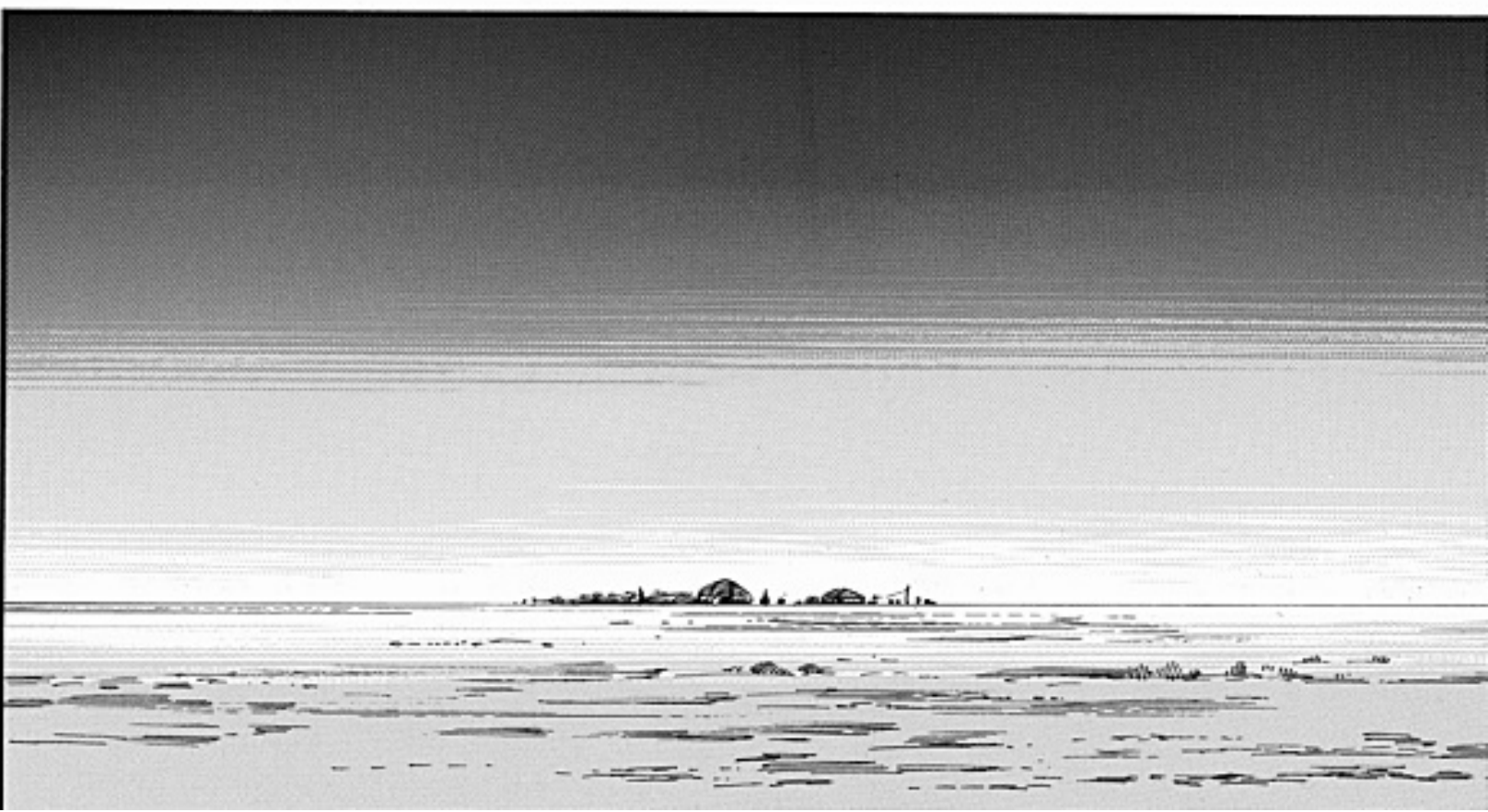


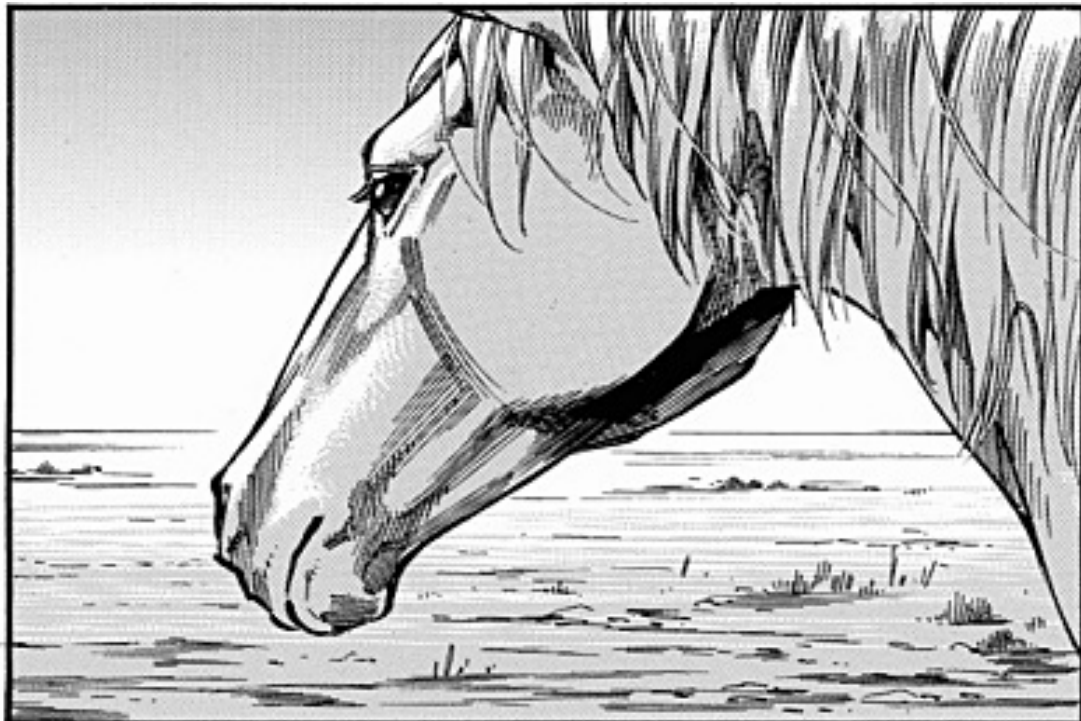
IF WE'RE GOING TO LEAVE, WE HAVE TO DO IT WHILE EVERYBODY'S OCCUPIED ELSEWHERE.

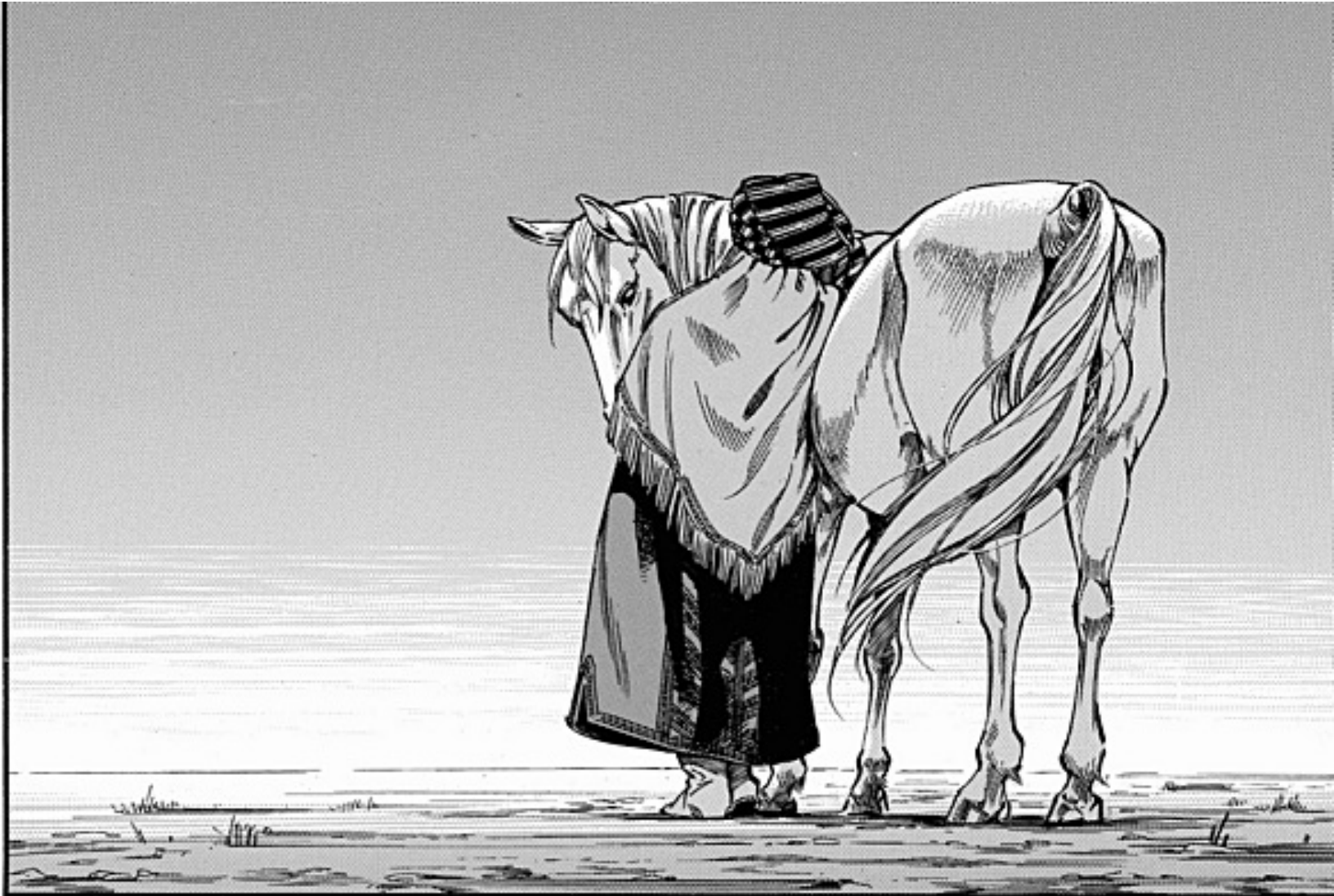
THINK ABOUT IT!









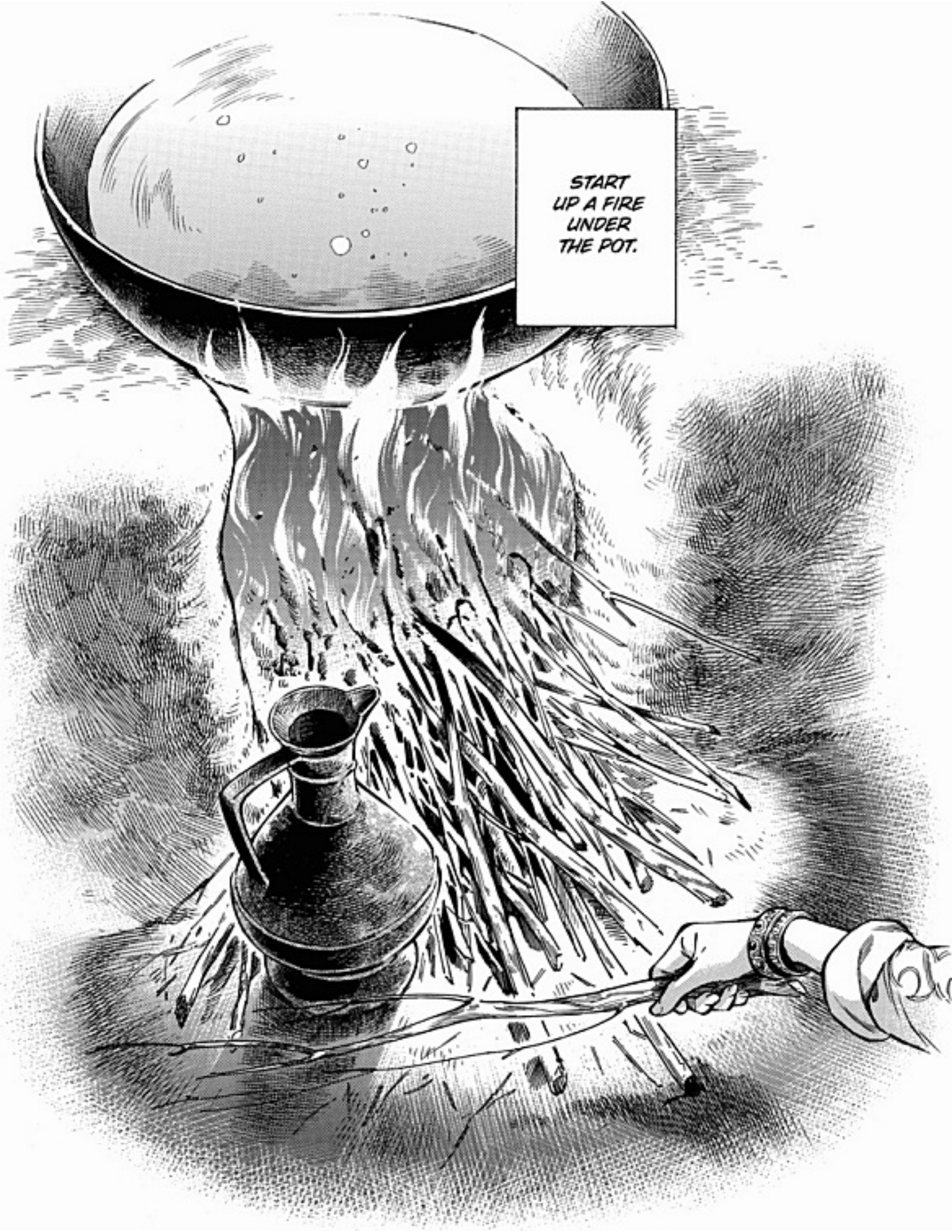




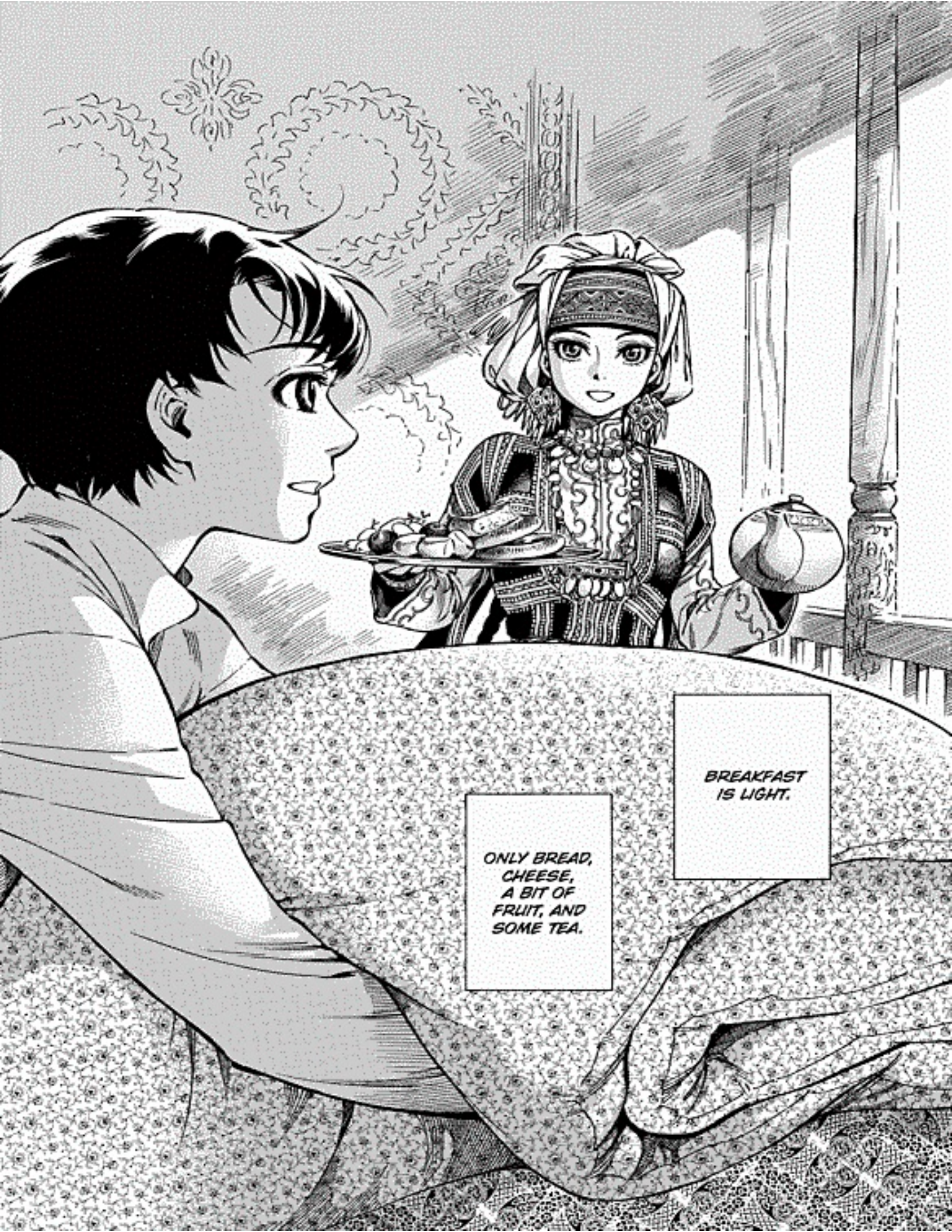
KARLUK
SEEMS COLD
IN HIS SLEEP,
SO I ADD
ONE MORE
COMFORTER.

THE
MORNINGS
HAVE COOLED
DOWN QUITE
A BIT
RECENTLY.

CHAPTER 26
THE DAYLONG
SONG



START
UP A FIRE
UNDER
THE POT.

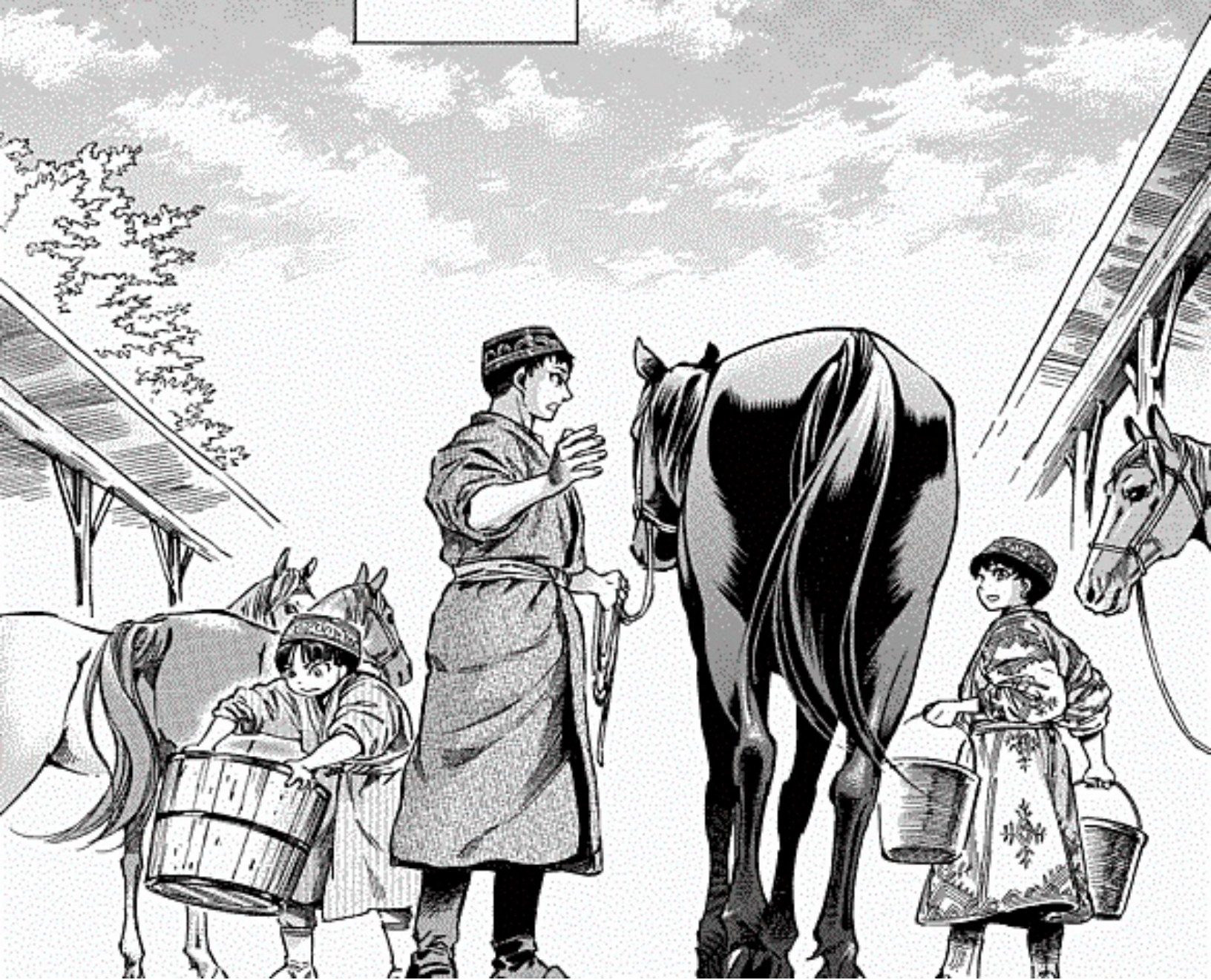


ONLY BREAD,
CHEESE,
A BIT OF
FRUIT, AND
SOME TEA.

BREAKFAST
IS LIGHT.

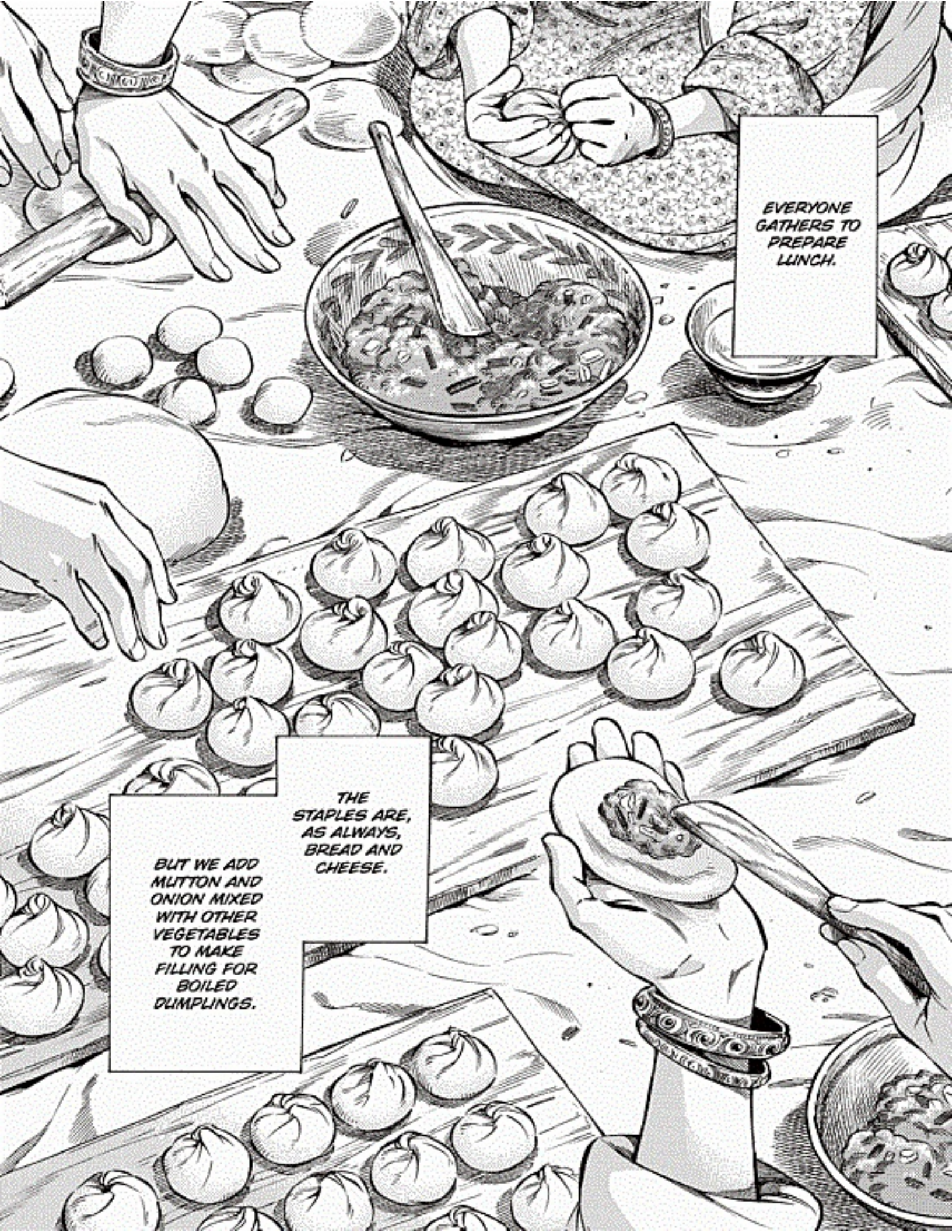
OPEN
UP THE
STABLES.

THE HORSES
GROW LIVELY
KNOWING THEY
ARE ABOUT TO
BE GROOMED.



!!





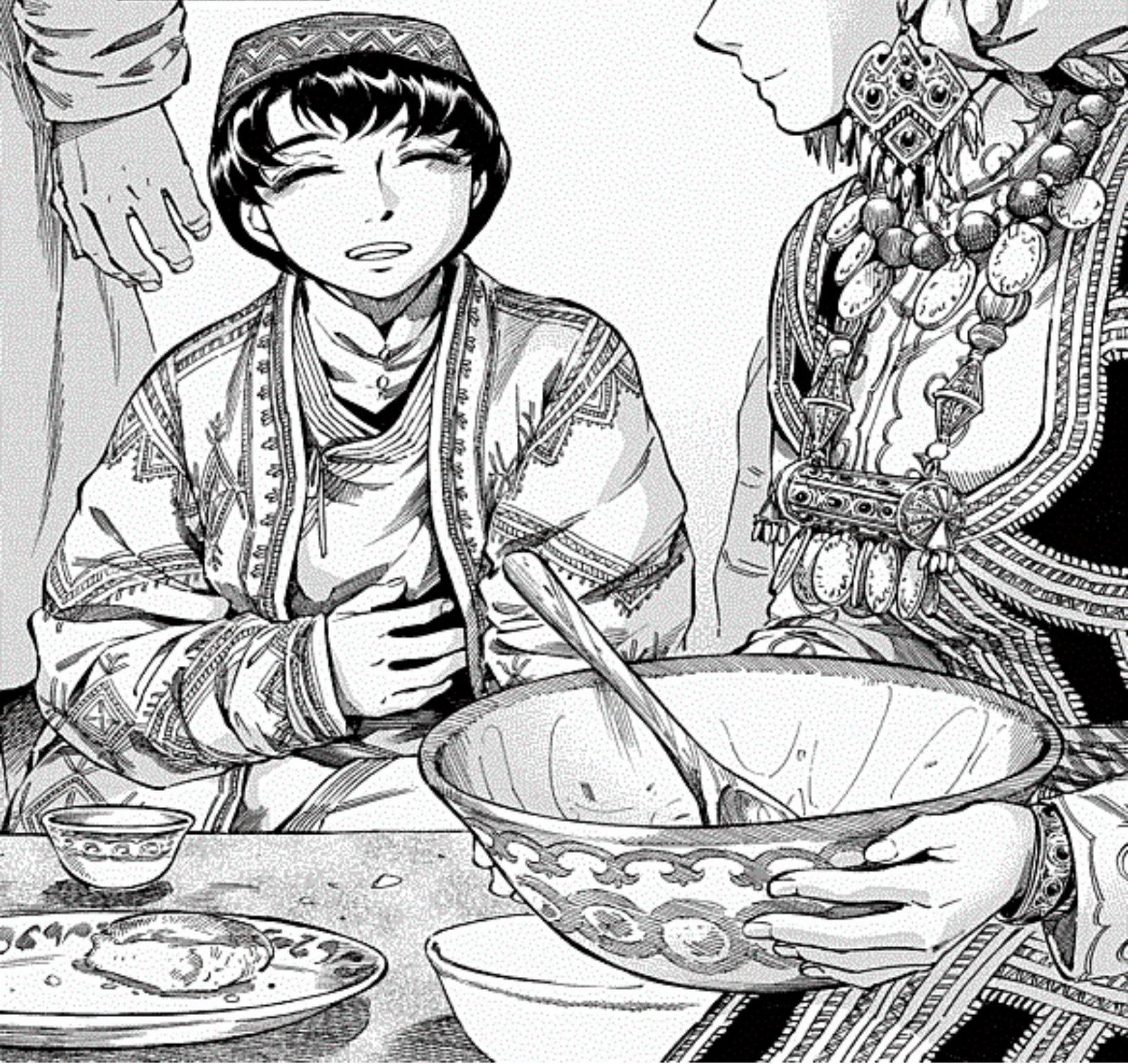
EVERYONE
GATHERS TO
PREPARE
LUNCH.

THE
STAPLES ARE,
AS ALWAYS,
BREAD AND
CHEESE.

BUT WE ADD
MUTTON AND
ONION MIXED
WITH OTHER
VEGETABLES
TO MAKE
FILLING FOR
BOILED
DUMPLINGS.

KARLUK SAYS
THEY WERE
ESPECIALLY
DELICIOUS
TODAY.

WE MADE
SO MANY,
BUT THEY ALL
VANISH.

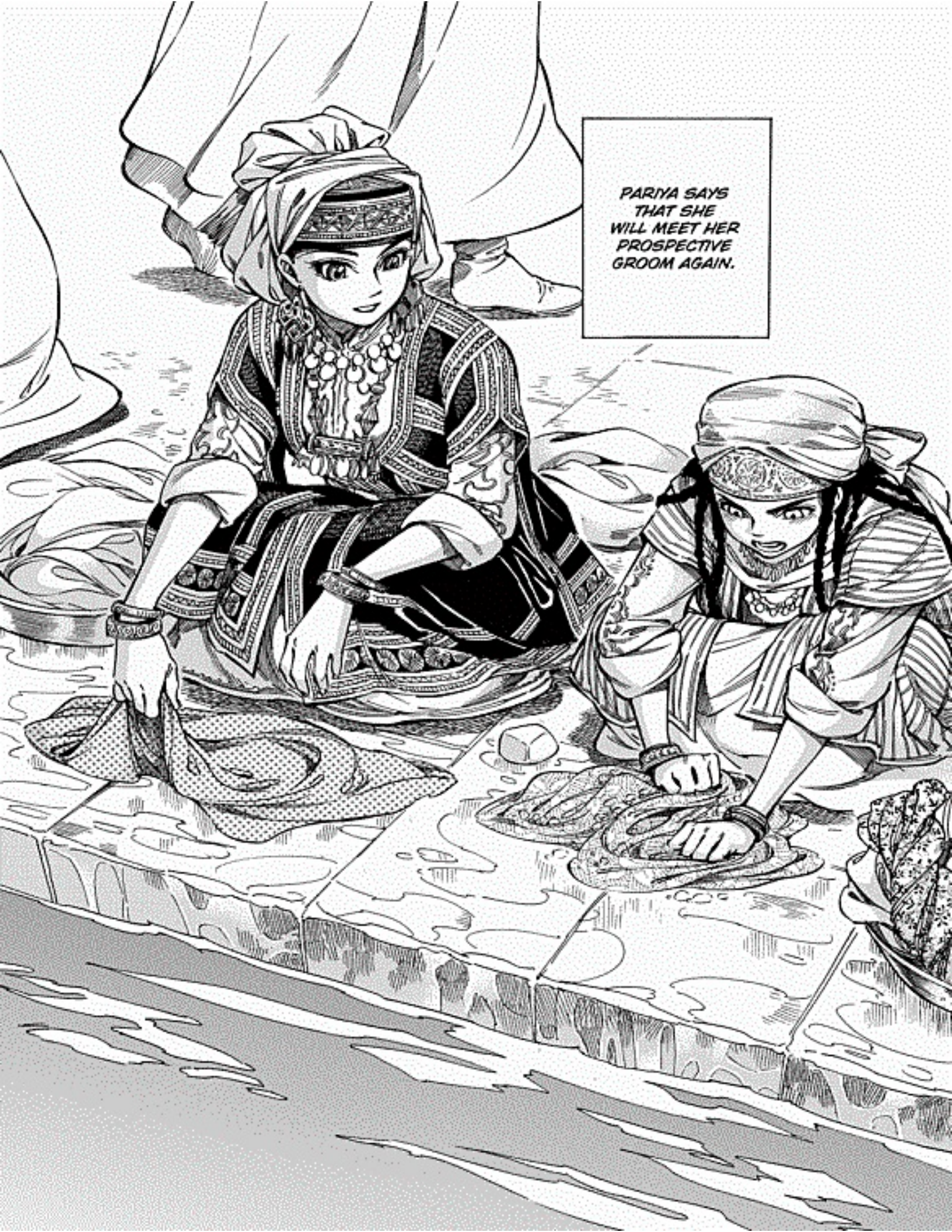




IT SEEMS A
NEIGHBOR'S
BURRO RAN
OFF.

WE EVEN
SEARCHED
OUTSIDE THE
TOWN...

...BUT IN
THE END, IT
WAS FOUND
SLEEPING
IN THE
NEXT-DOOR
NEIGHBOR'S
INNER
GARDEN.

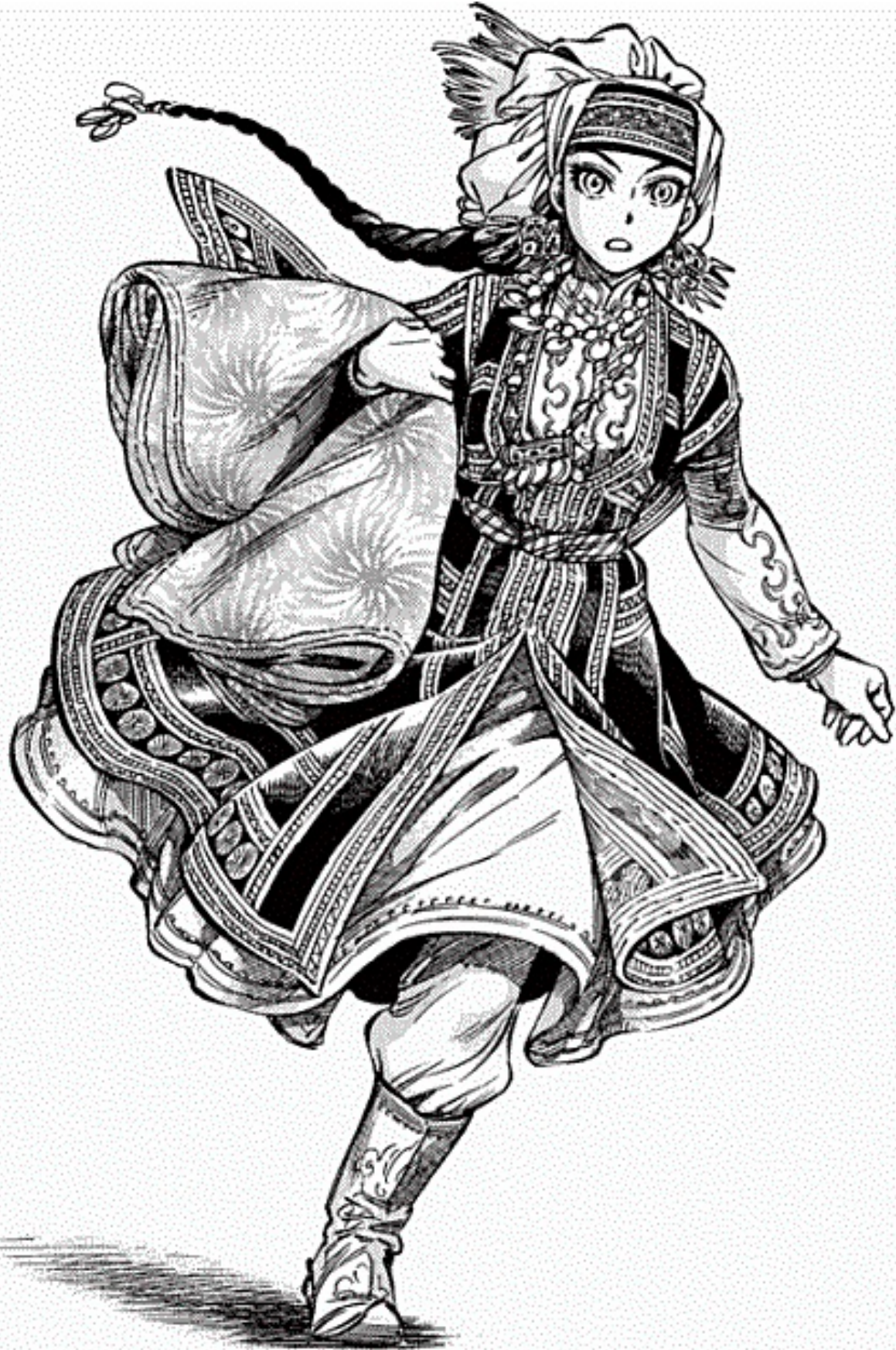


PARIYA SAYS
THAT SHE
WILL MEET HER
PROSPECTIVE
GROOM AGAIN.

AS I GO OUT
TO DELIVER
SOME EGGS
TO A
NEIGHBOR...

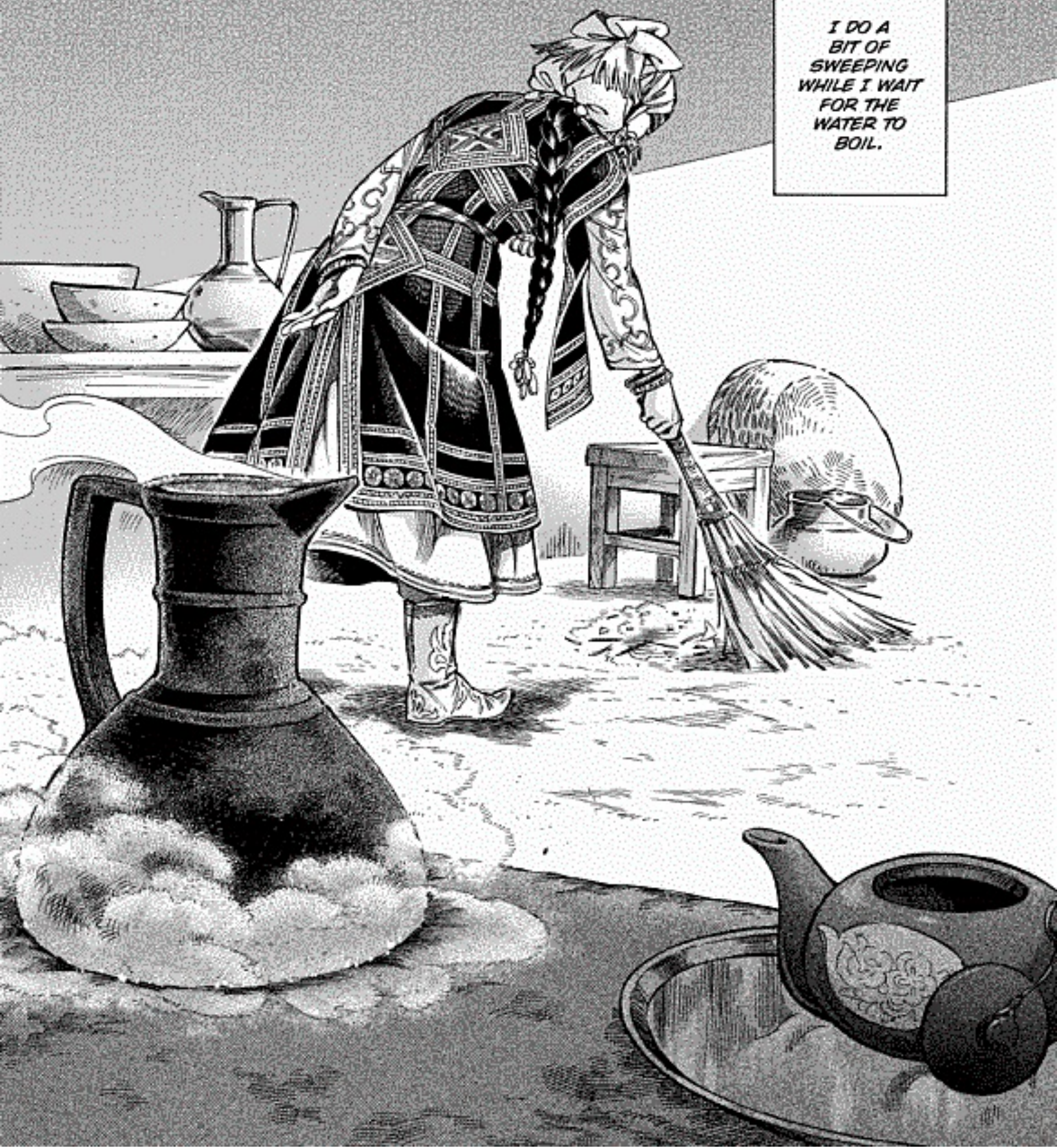
...I'M ASKED
TO RETURN A
BORROWED
HORSE
BLANKET.

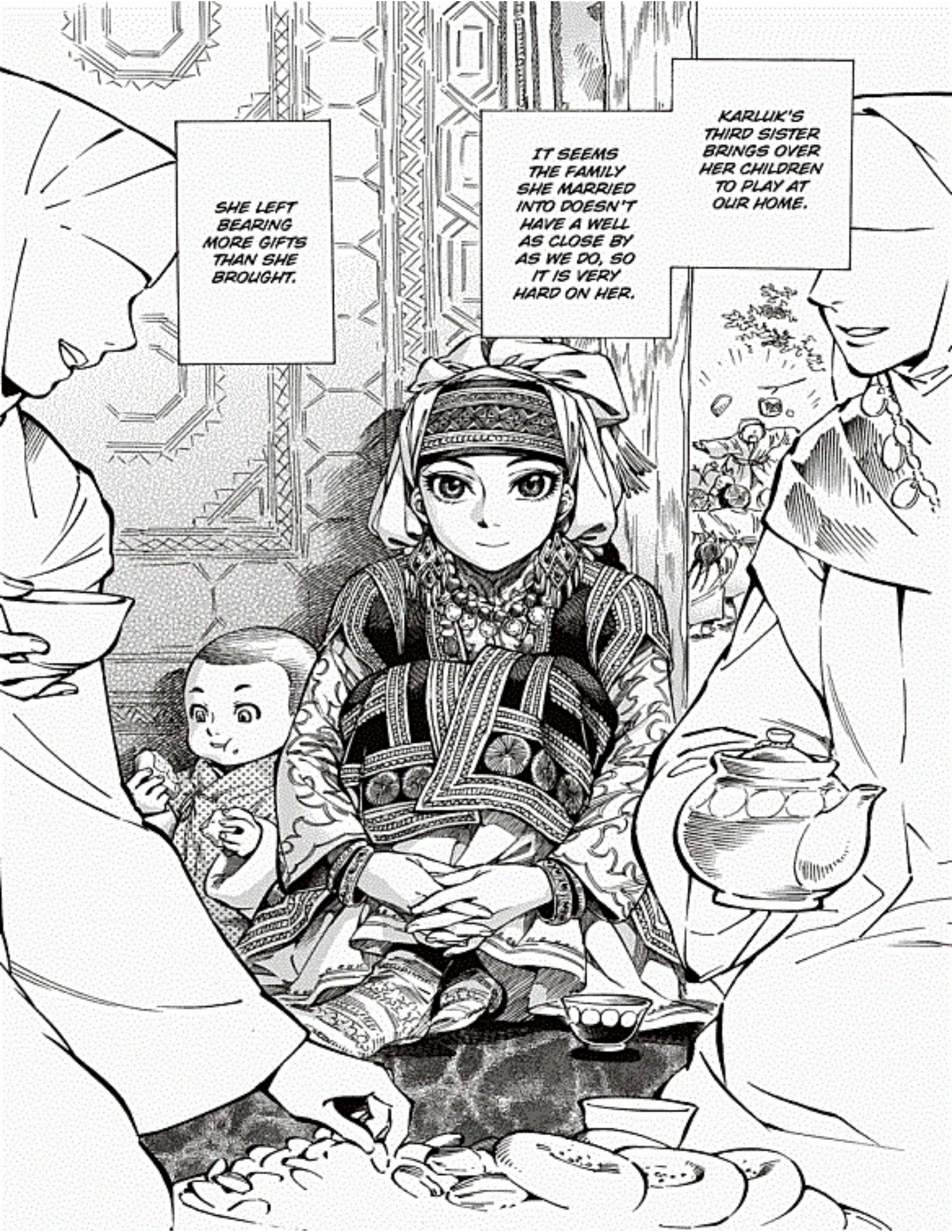




AND I
FORGET
THE EGGS
THAT WERE
MY MAIN
PURPOSE.

I DO A
BIT OF
SWEEPING
WHILE I WAIT
FOR THE
WATER TO
BOIL.





SHE LEFT
BEARING
MORE GIFTS
THAN SHE
BROUGHT.

IT SEEMS
THE FAMILY
SHE MARRIED
INTO DOESN'T
HAVE A WELL
AS CLOSE BY
AS WE DO, SO
IT IS VERY
HARD ON HER.

KARLUK'S
THIRD SISTER
BRINGS OVER
HER CHILDREN
TO PLAY AT
OUR HOME.



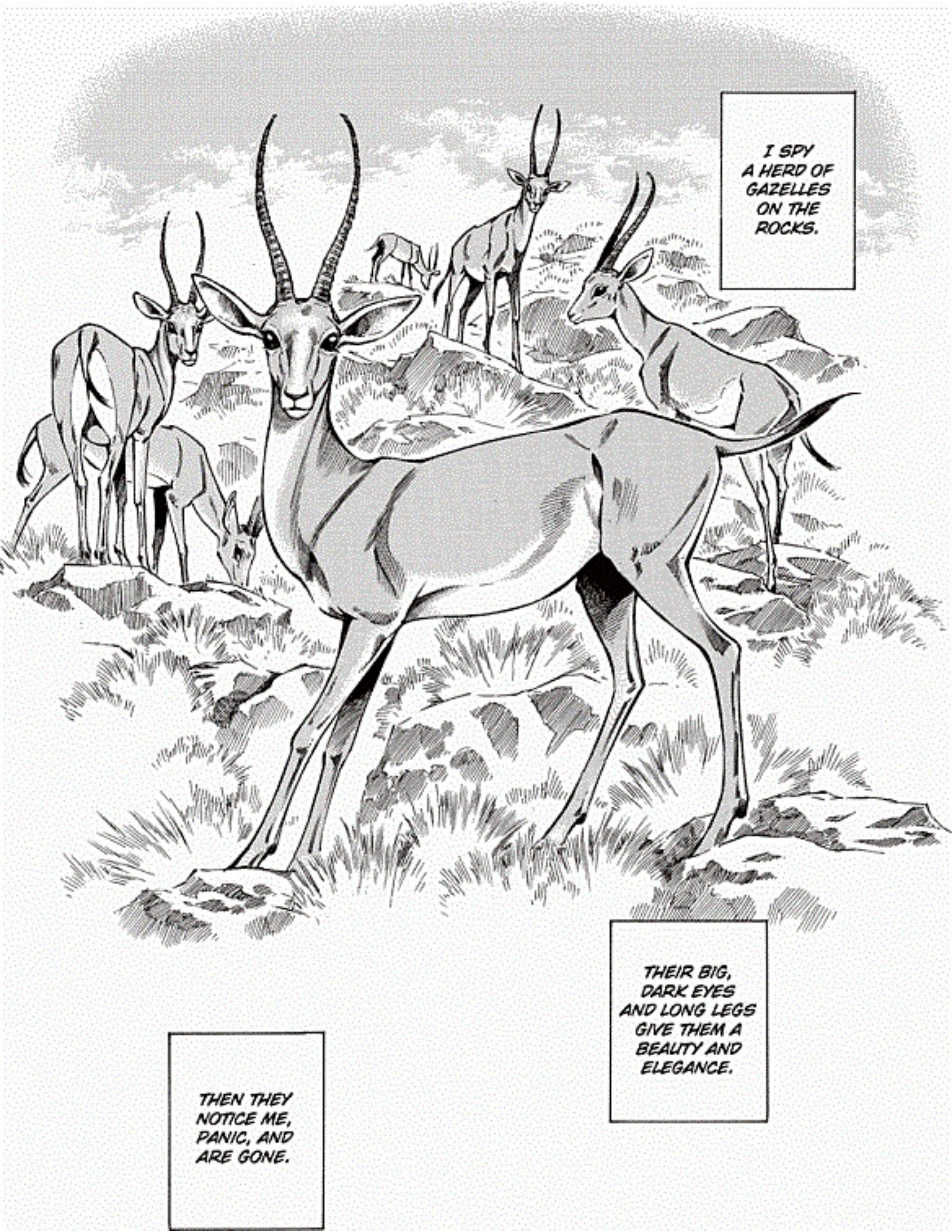
*THE ONLY
MASTER
THEY SERVE
IS THE
HEAVENS.*



I CHASE
THE
BEASTS
OF THE
PLAINS...

...BUT I
CANNOT
CATCH
HAWKS.

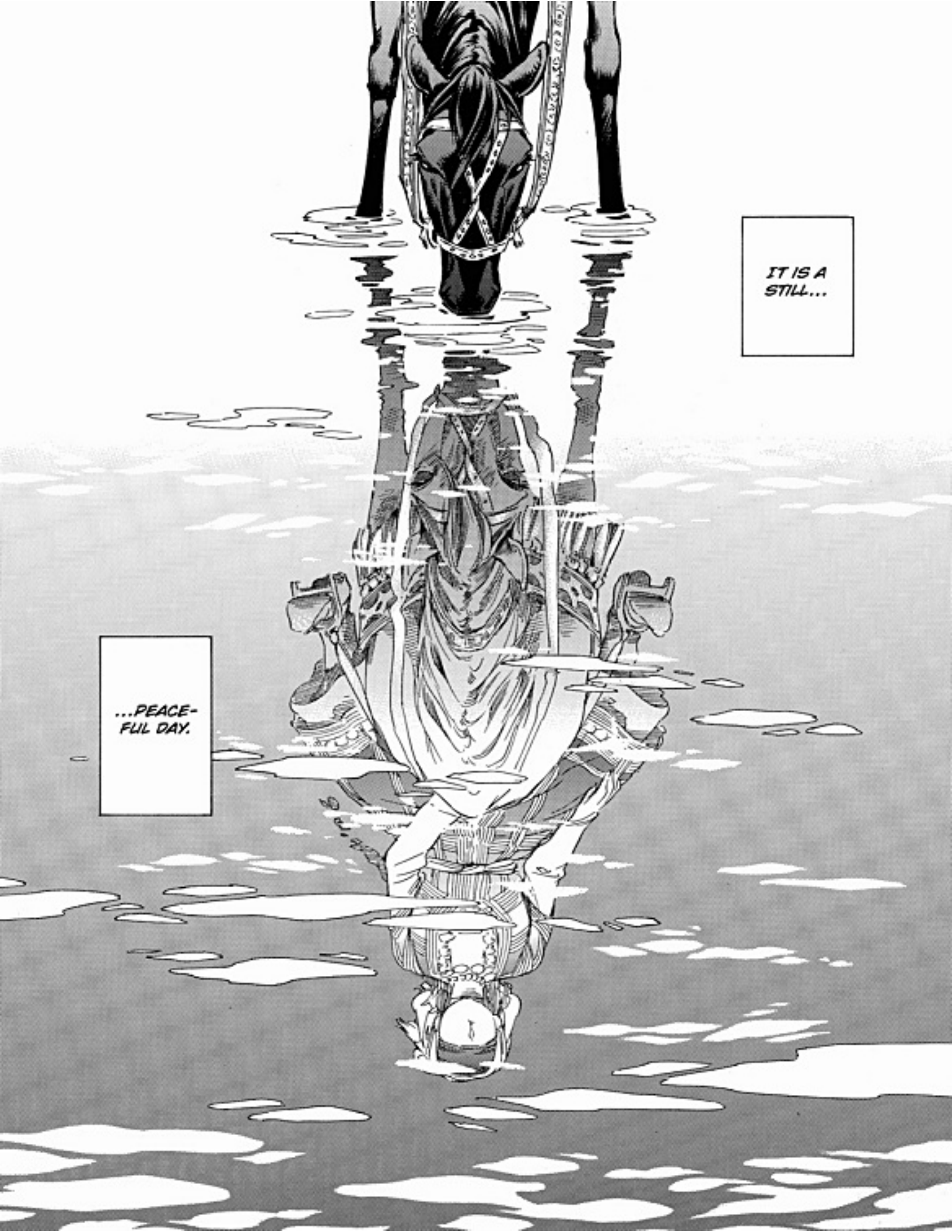




I SPY
A HERD OF
GAZELLES
ON THE
ROCKS.

THEIR BIG,
DARK EYES
AND LONG LEGS
GIVE THEM A
BEAUTY AND
ELEGANCE.

THEN THEY
NOTICE ME,
PANIC, AND
ARE GONE.

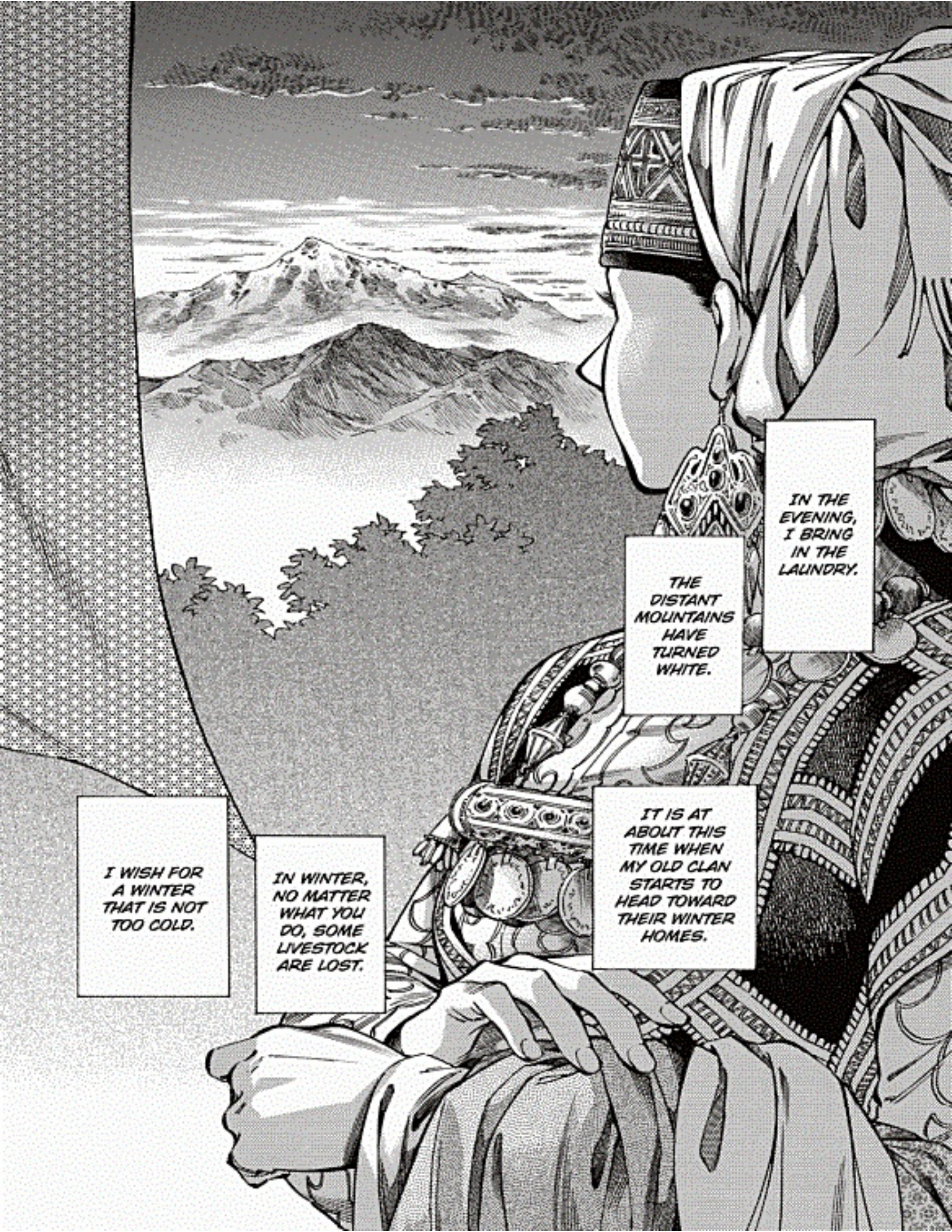


IT IS A
STILL...

...PEACE-
FUL DAY.

KARLUK
GOT JUST A BIT
TALLER.





I WISH FOR
A WINTER
THAT IS NOT
TOO COLD.

IN WINTER,
NO MATTER
WHAT YOU
DO, SOME
LIVESTOCK
ARE LOST.

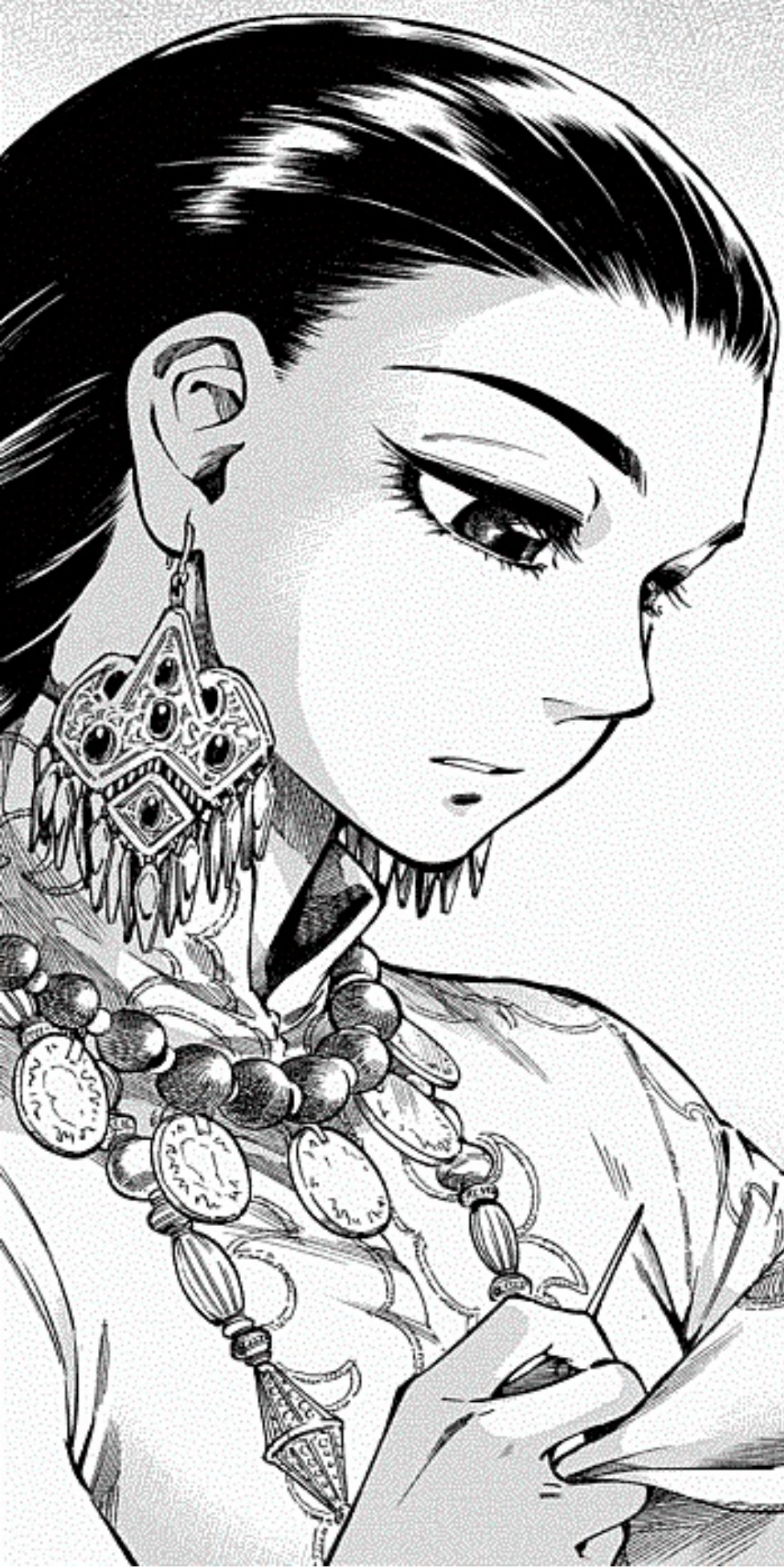
IT IS AT
ABOUT THIS
TIME WHEN
MY OLD CLAN
STARTS TO
HEAD TOWARD
THEIR WINTER
HOMES.

THE
DISTANT
MOUNTAINS
HAVE
TURNED
WHITE.

IN THE
EVENING,
I BRING
IN THE
LAUNDRY.

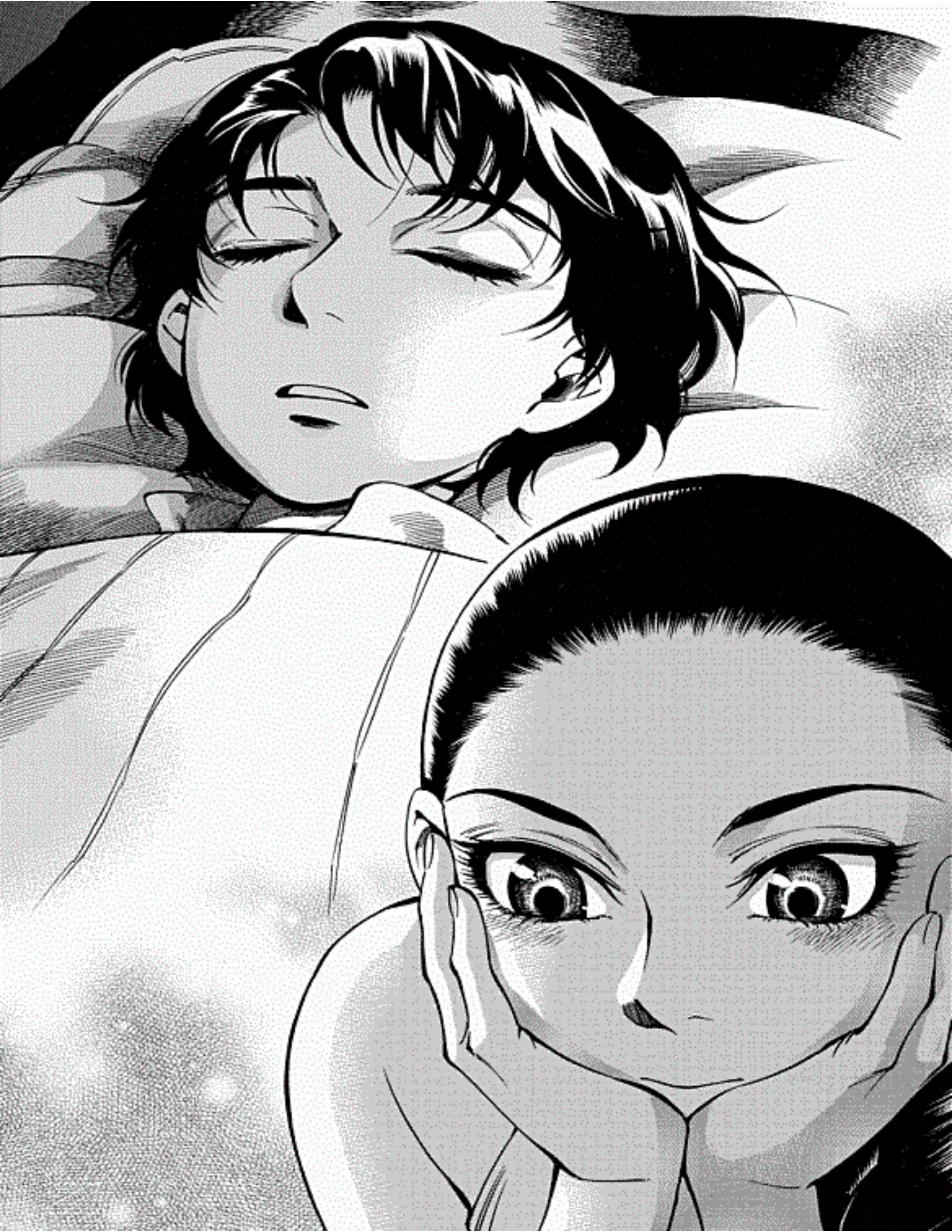
WITH JUST
A BIT MORE
WORK, I'LL BE
FINISHED
WITH A NEW
PILLOWCASE.



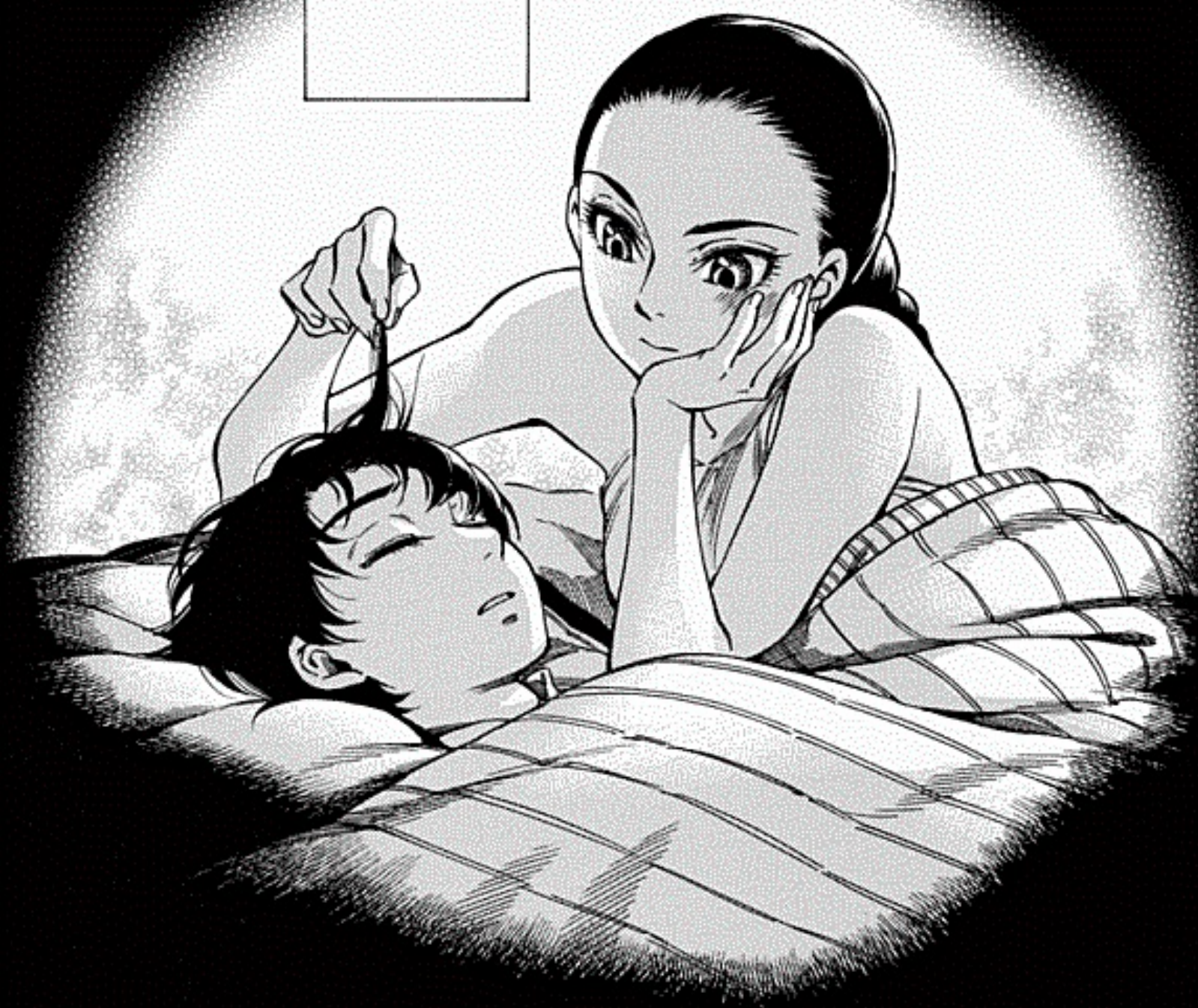


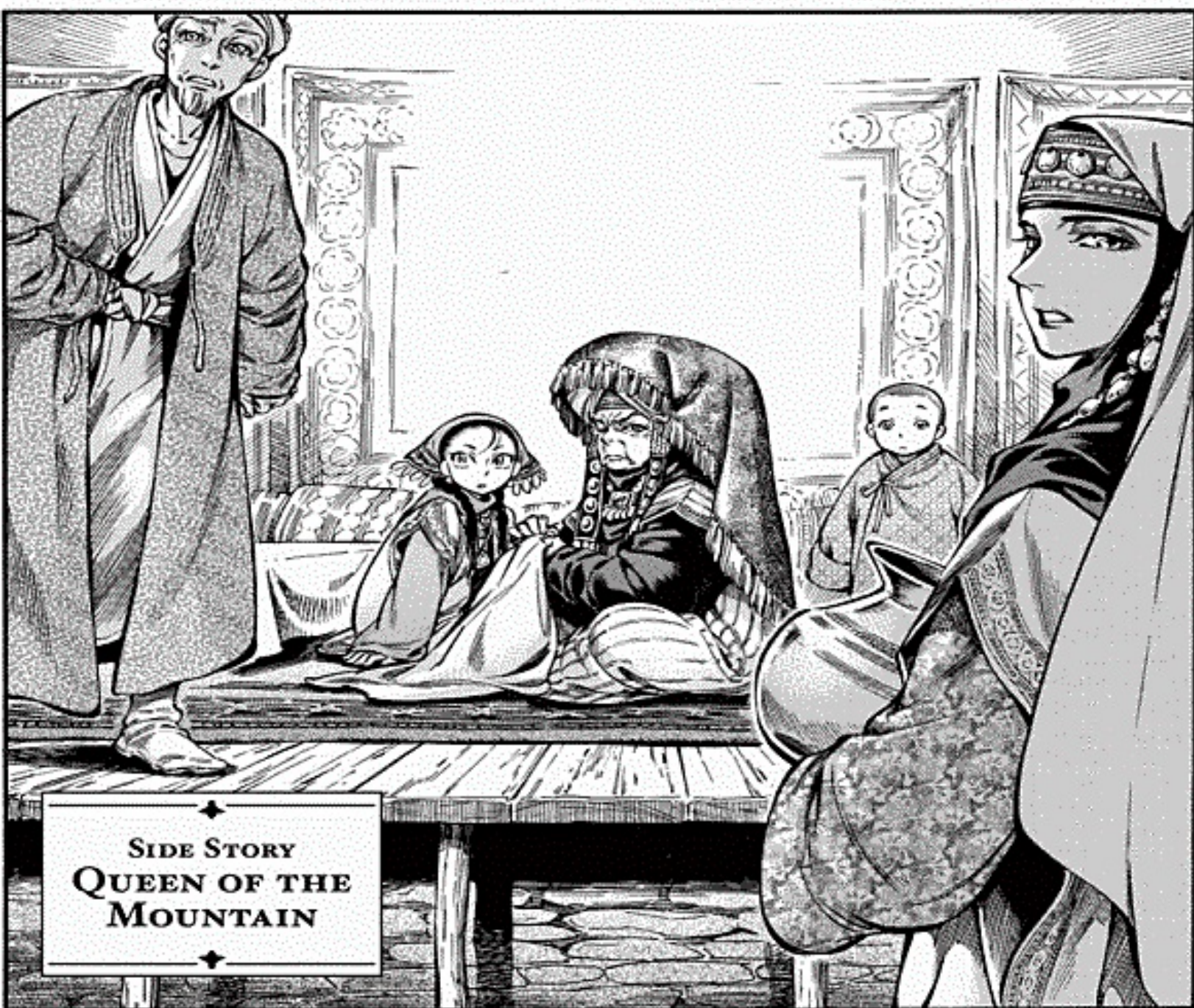
IT MIGHT BE
BETTER IF THIS
FLOWER WERE
RED RATHER
THAN GREEN.





I HOPE HE
GROWS UP
QUICKLY.

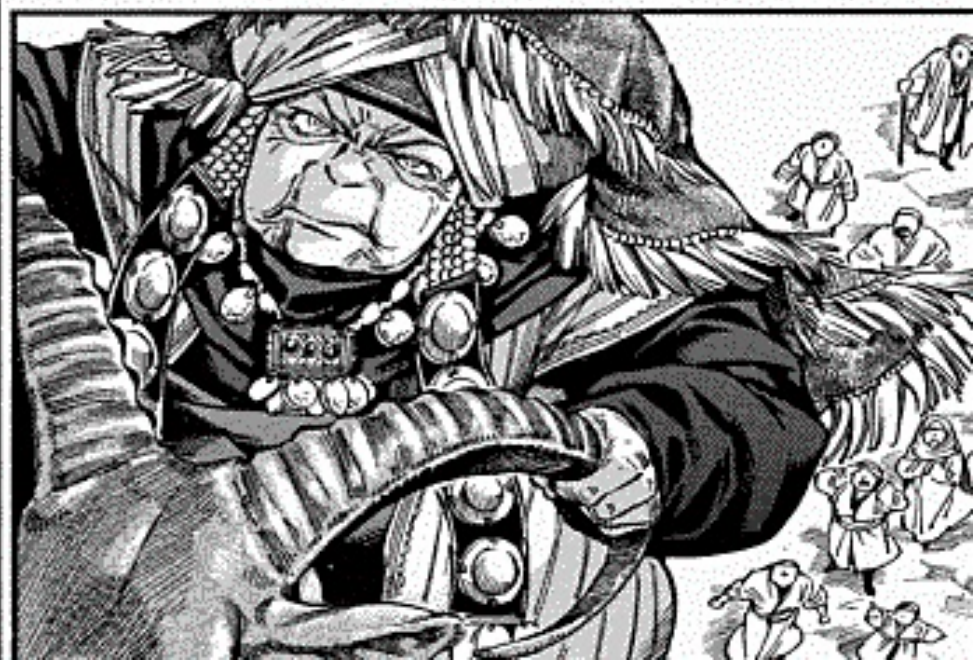










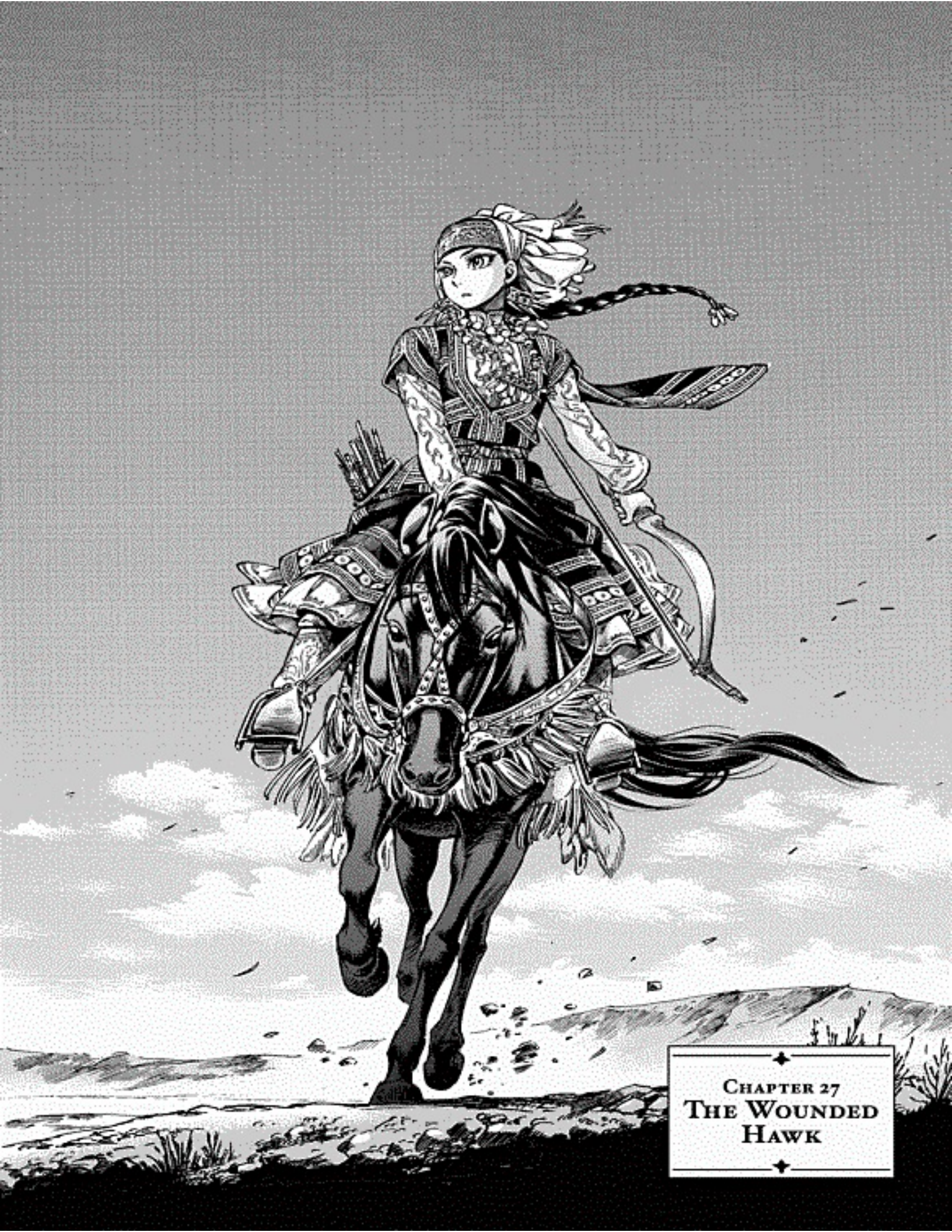




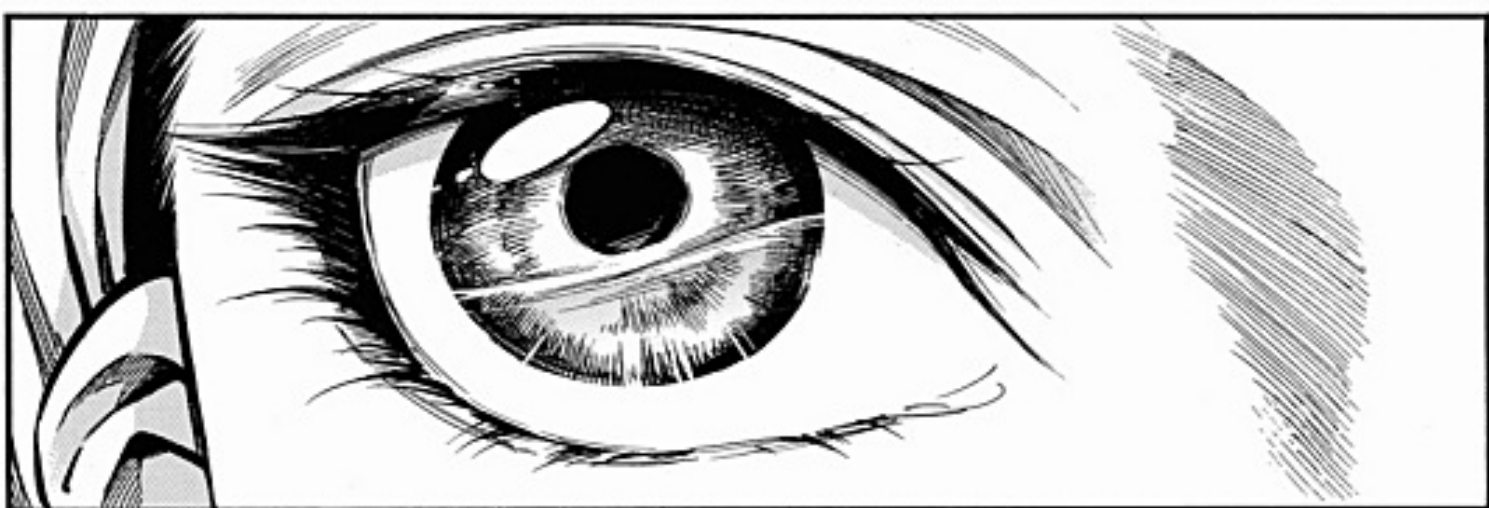
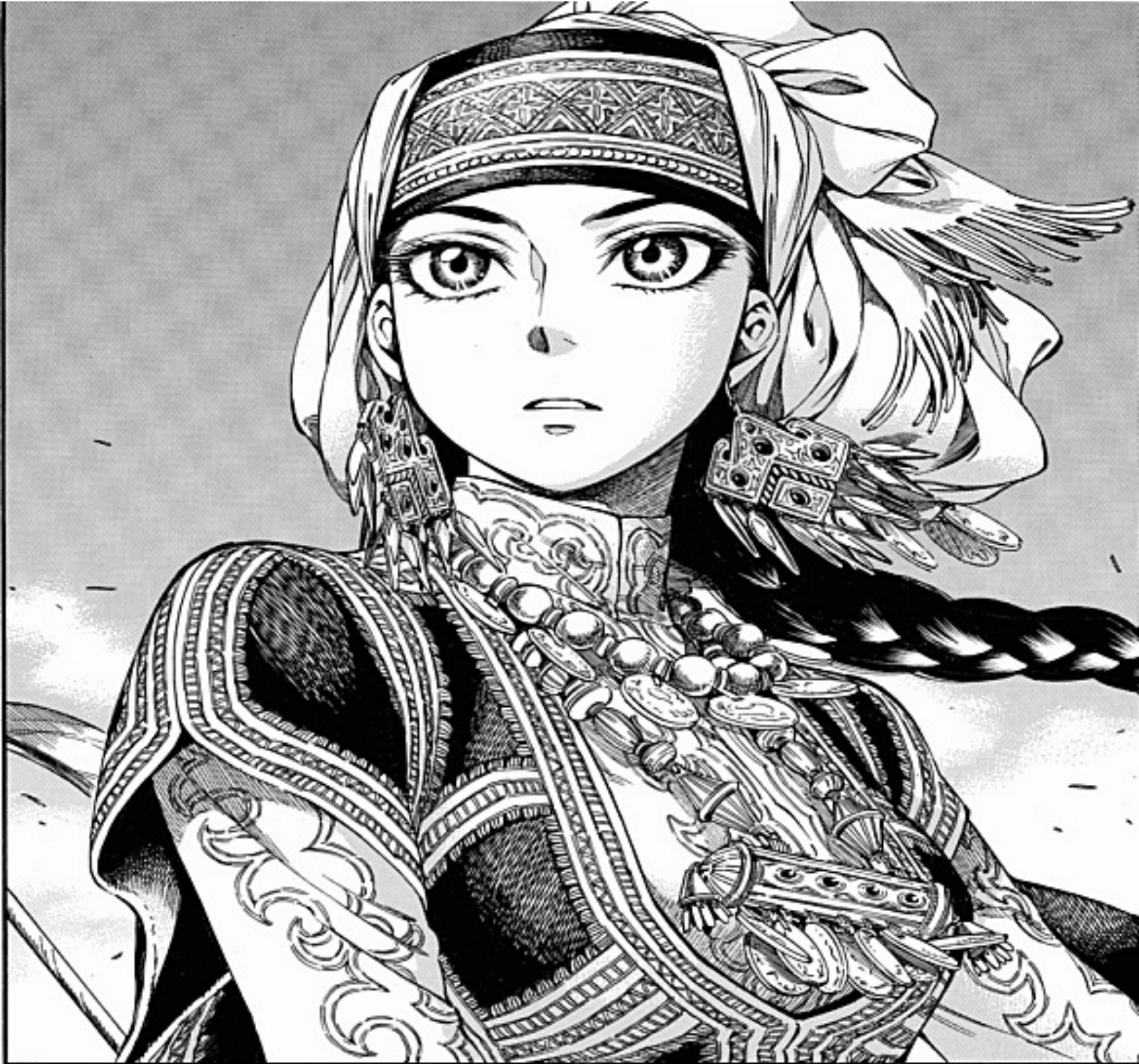


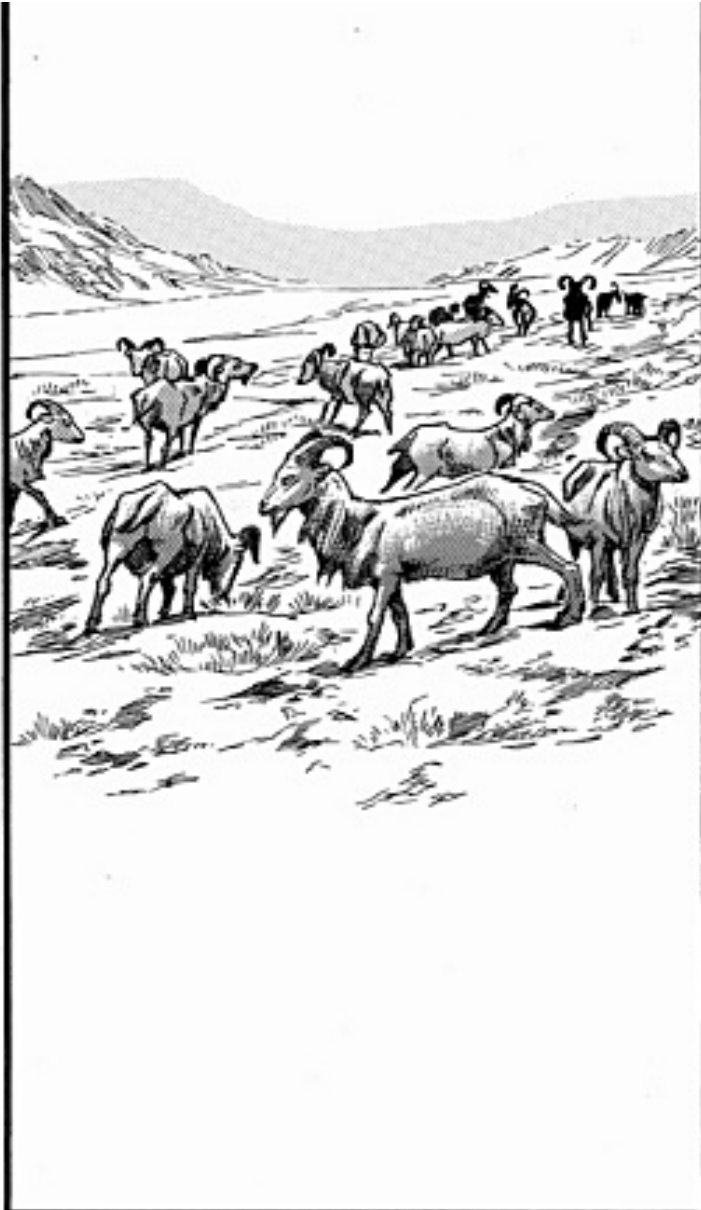


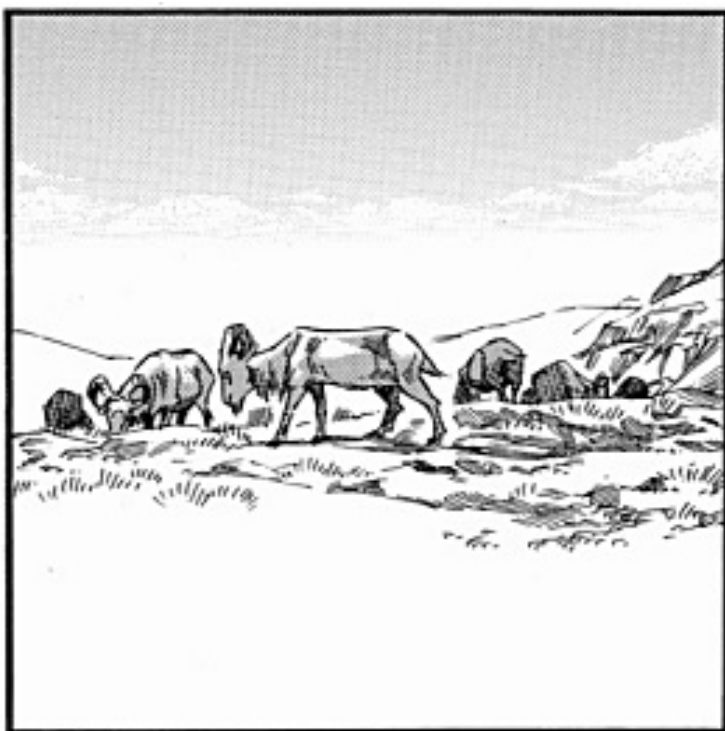
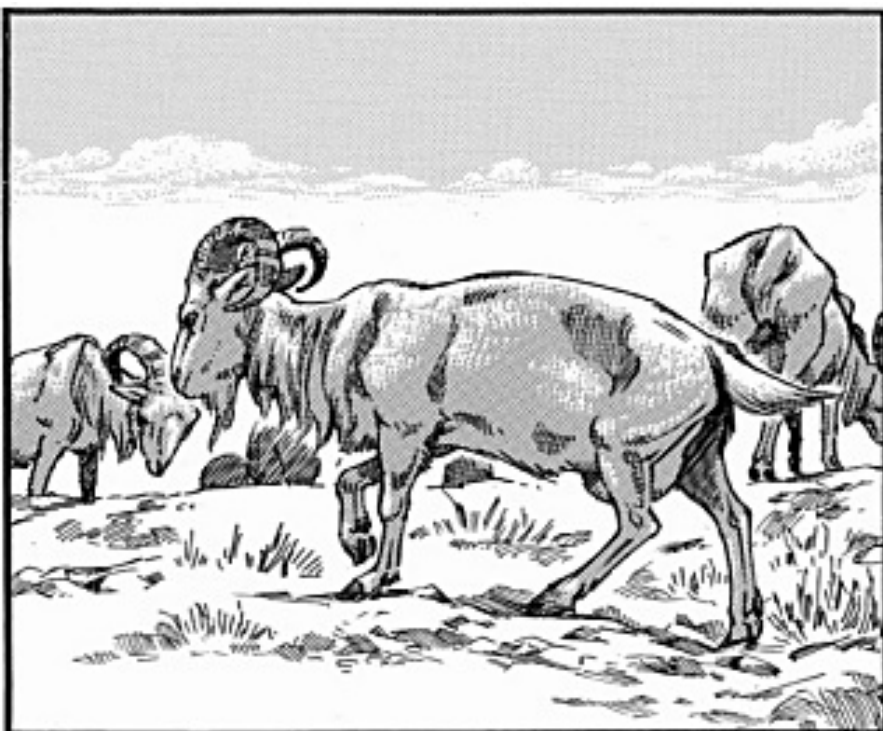


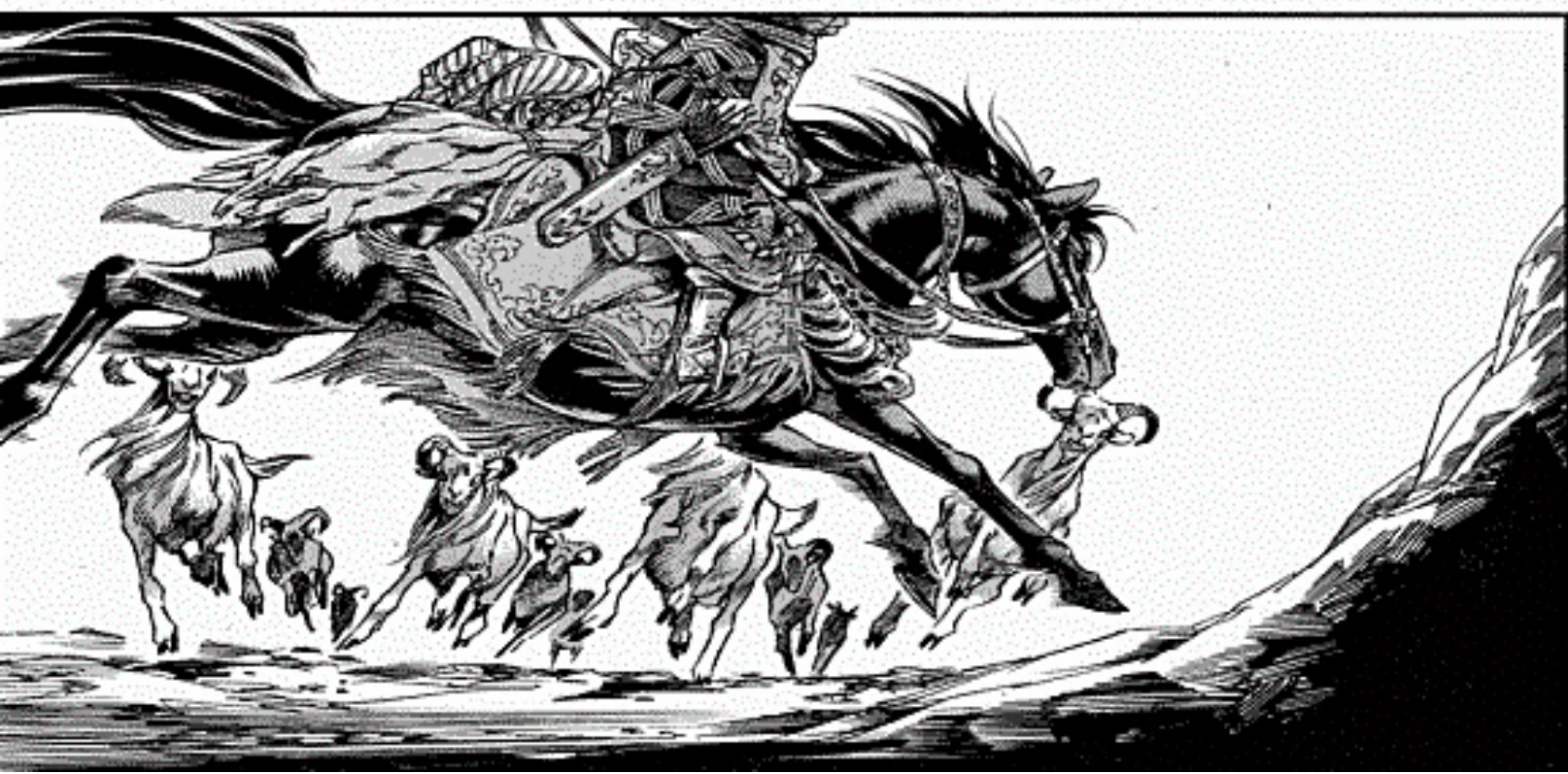


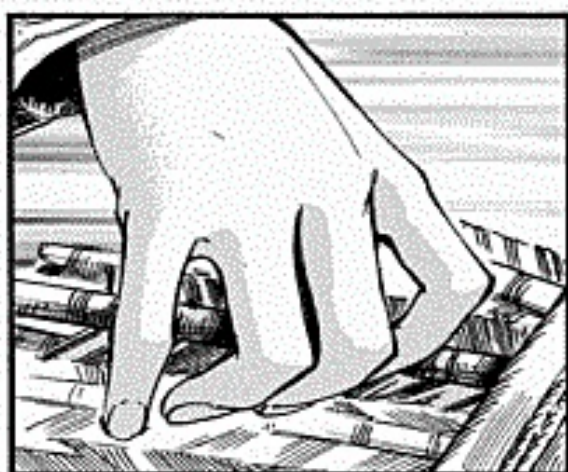
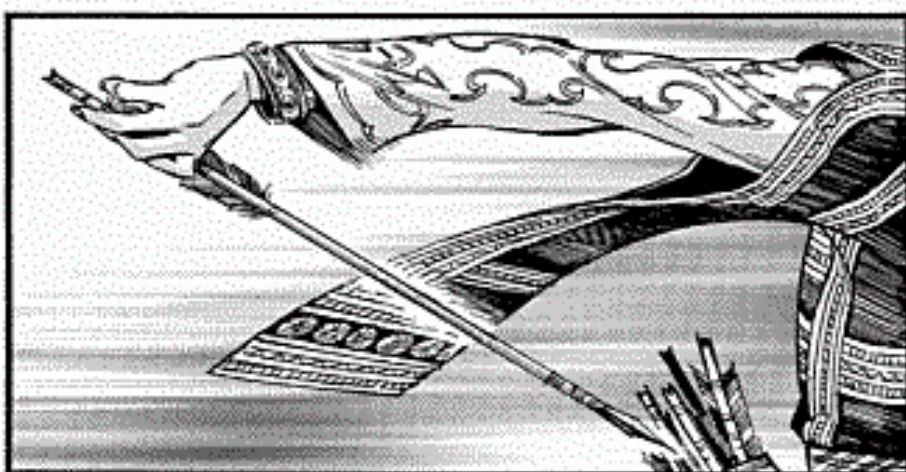
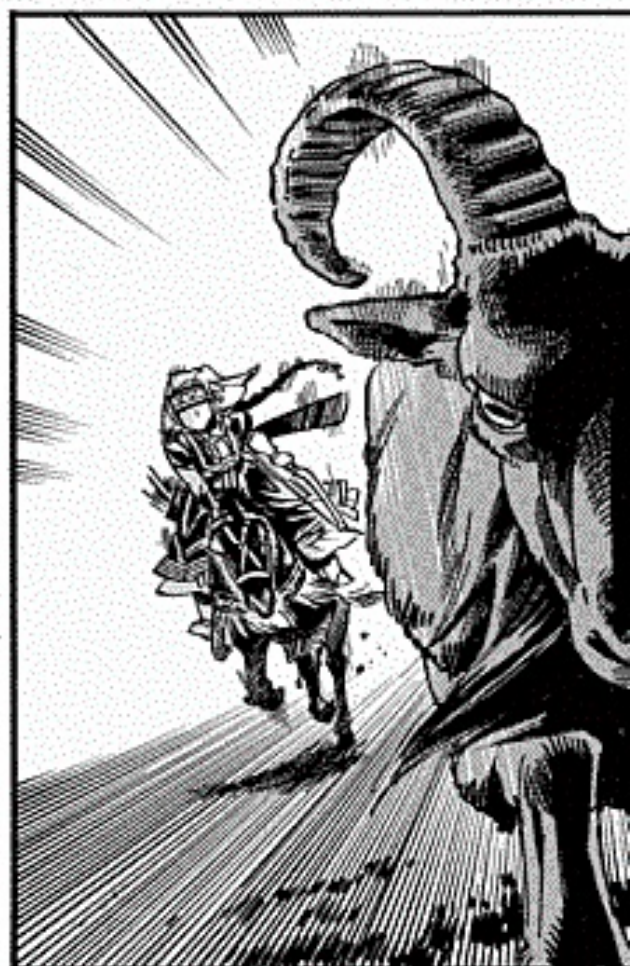
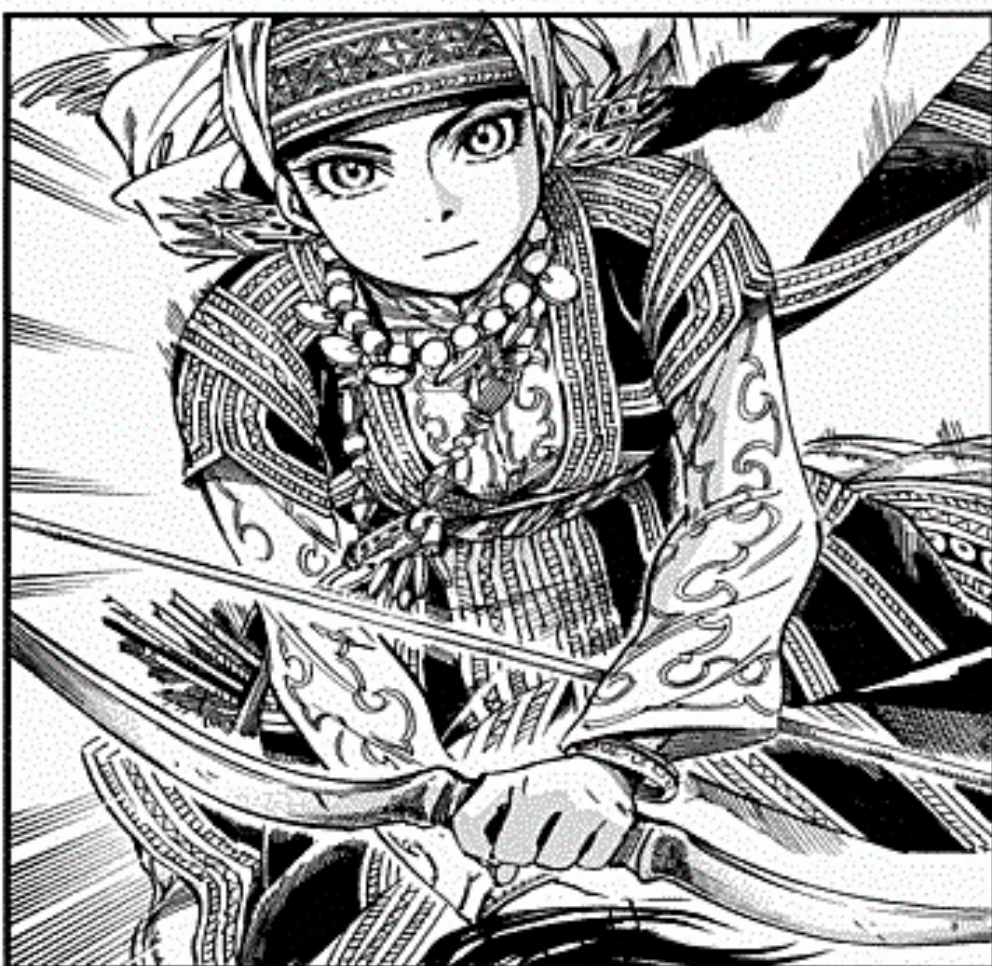
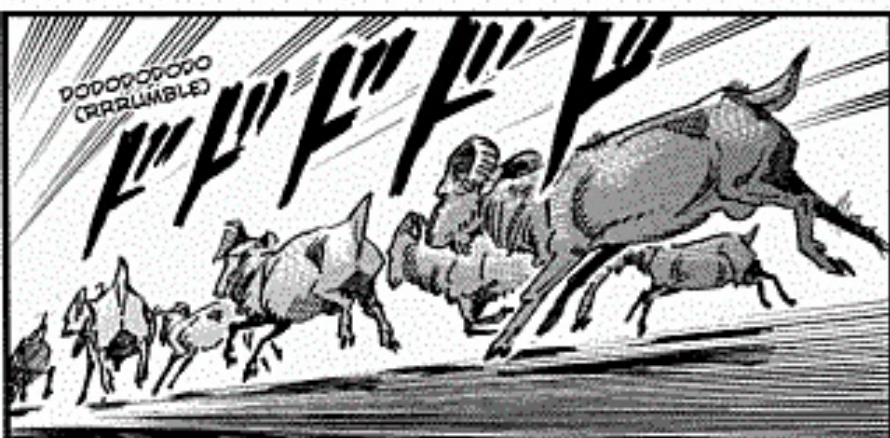
CHAPTER 27
THE WOUNDED
HAWK

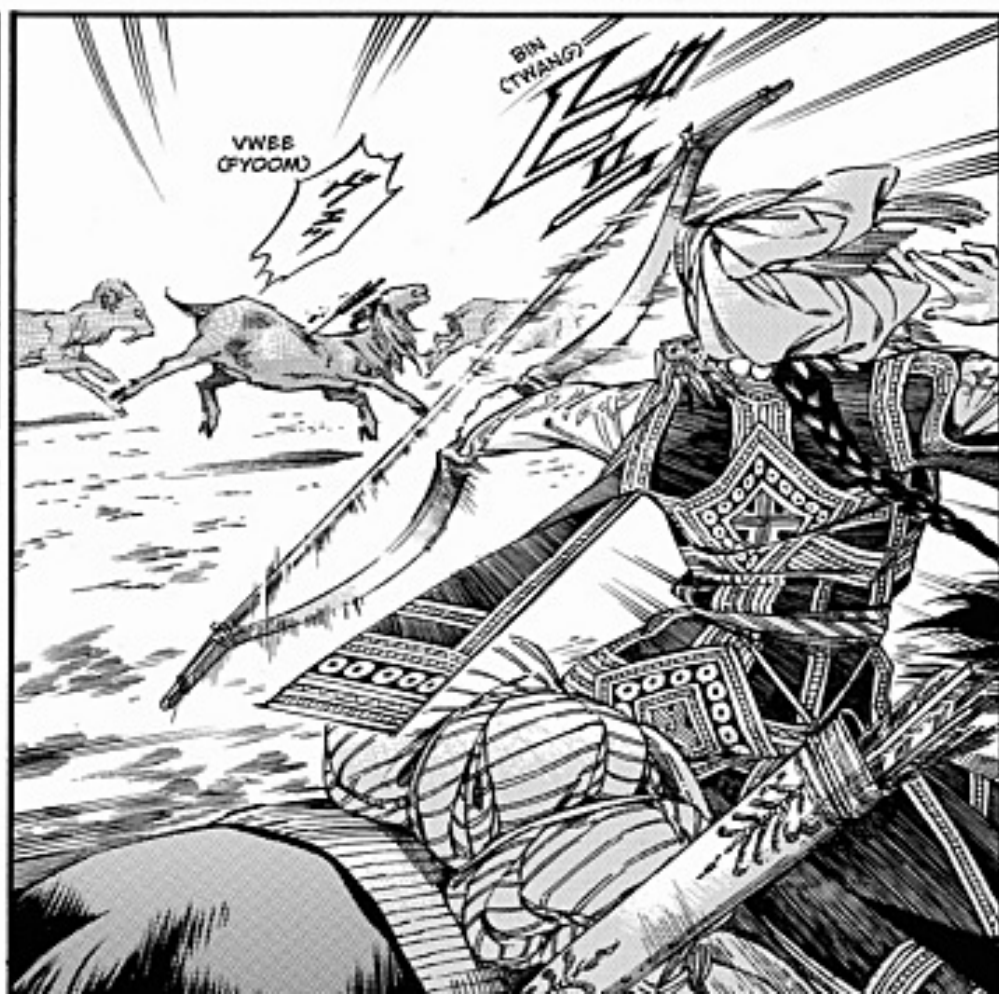




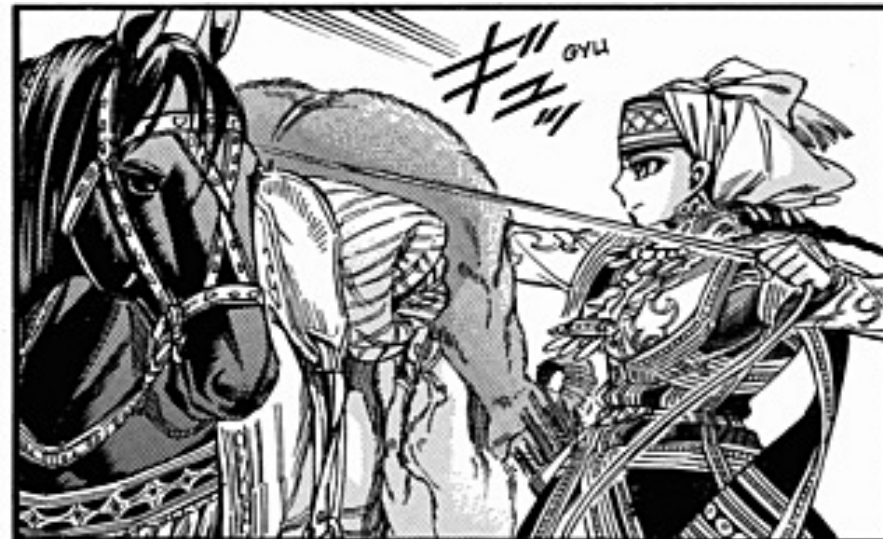












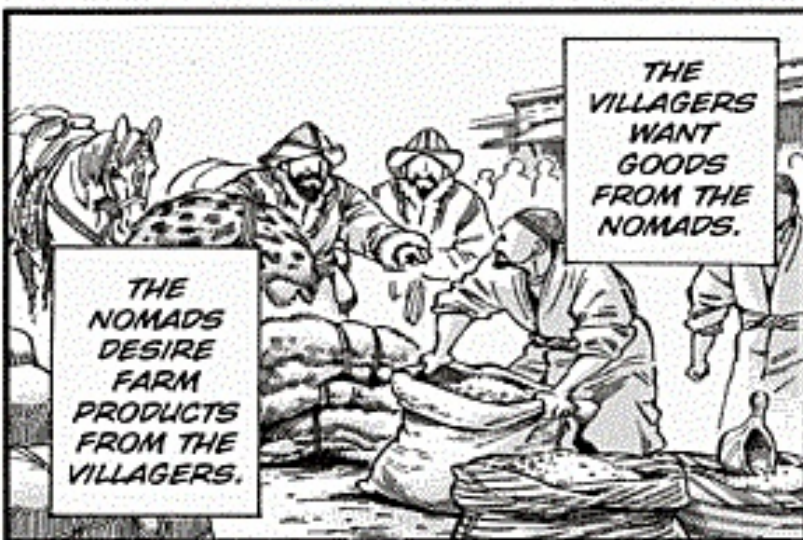
THE
NINE-
TEENTH
CEN-
TURY.

CENTRAL
ASIA.



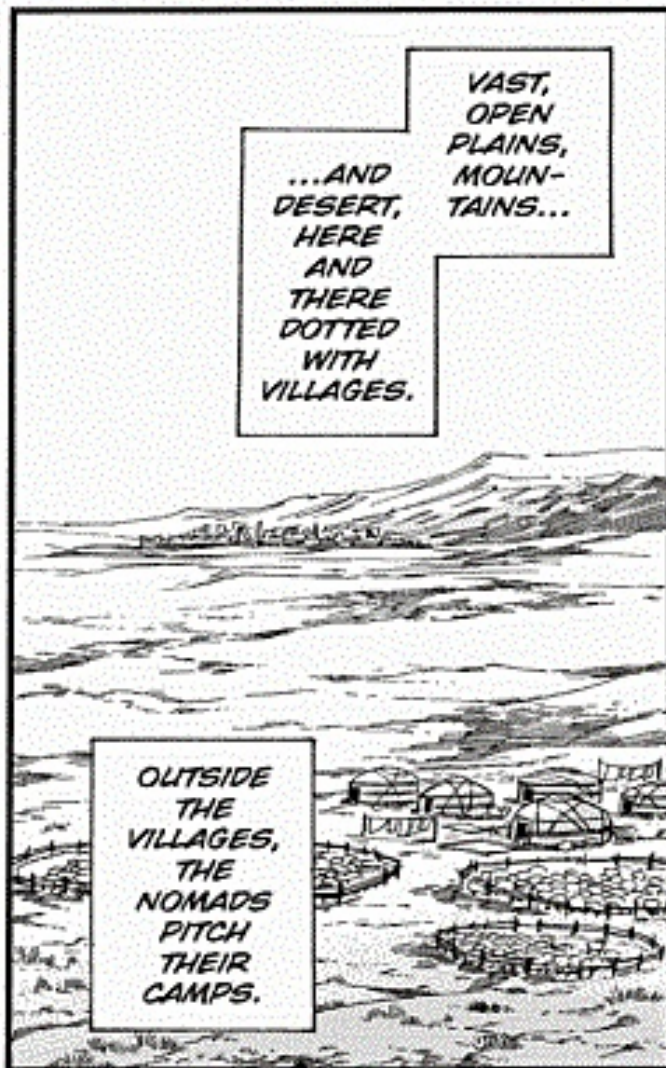
THE
VILLAGERS
WANT
GOODS
FROM THE
NOMADS.

THE
NOMADS
DESIRE
FARM
PRODUCTS
FROM THE
VILLAGERS.



VAST,
OPEN
PLAINS,
MOUN-
TAINS...

...AND
DESERT,
HERE
AND
THERE
DOTTED
WITH
VILLAGES.



OUTSIDE
THE
VILLAGES,
THE
NOMADS
PITCH
THEIR
CAMPS.

AND IN ALL
PLACES,
INFORMA-
TION IS
EXCHANGED.



...FAR
AND WIDE,
RUMORS
OF A
RUSSIAN
INVASION
SPREAD.

AND...

THE
MARKET
STALLS
ARE
BUSTLING...

...AND
PEOPLE
MAKE
THEIR WAY
THROUGH
THEIR
EVERDAY
LIVES.

BUT EVEN
AMID THE
RUMORS,
THE
CARAVANS
TRAVEL
THEIR
ROUTES.

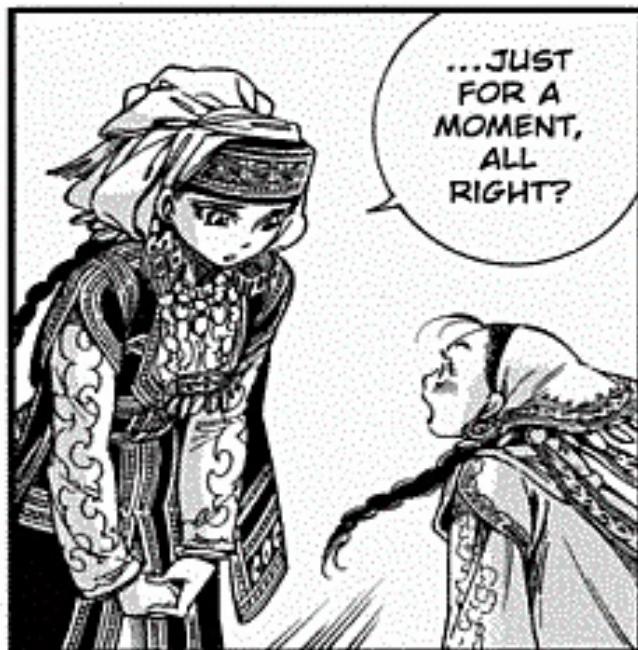
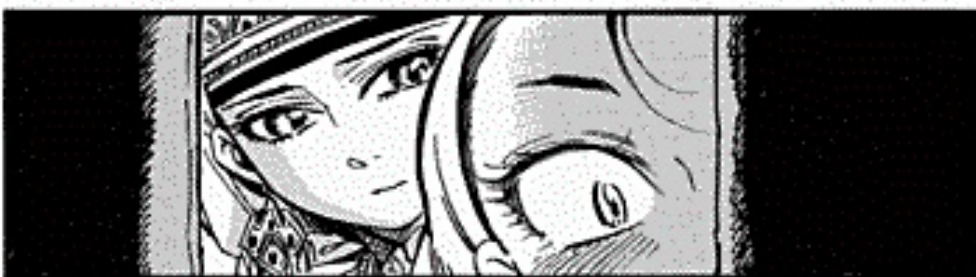






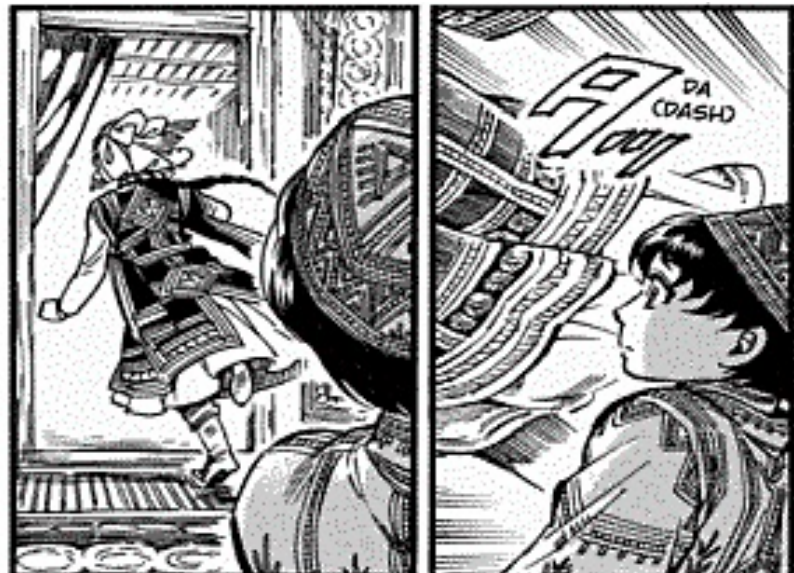






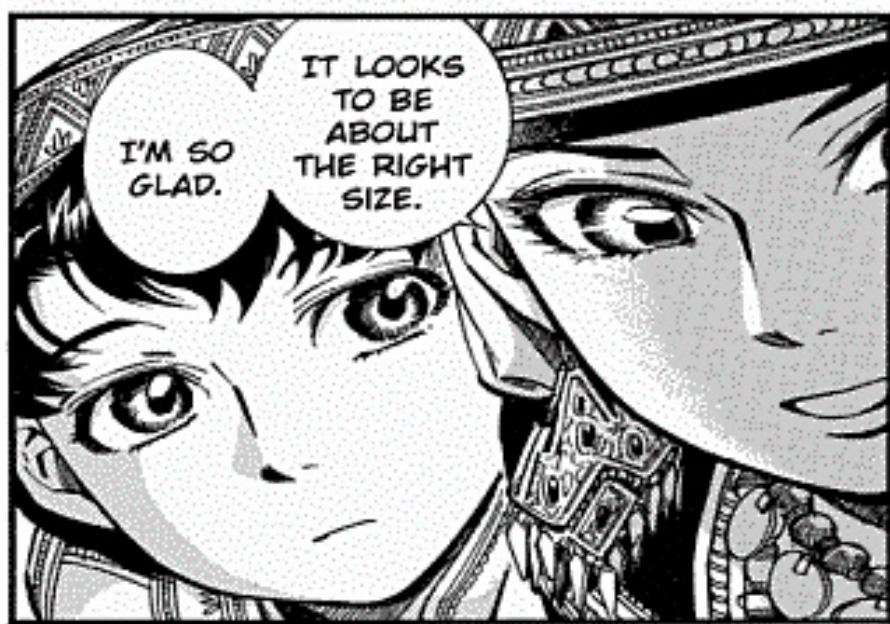








IT'S A
HAWK
HOOD.



I'M SO
GLAD.

IT LOOKS
TO BE
ABOUT
THE RIGHT
SIZE.



WHEN
THEY'RE
ANXIOUS, THEY
START GETTING
AGGRESSIVE,
AND THAT
COULD DAMAGE
ITS WING EVEN
MORE.

YOU COVER
ITS EYES
AND MAKE
IT DARK,
AND THEY
CALM
DOWN.

REAL-
LY?

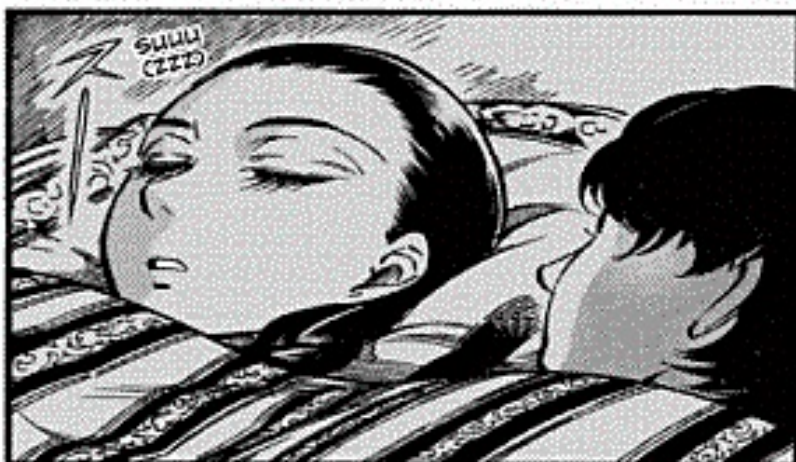
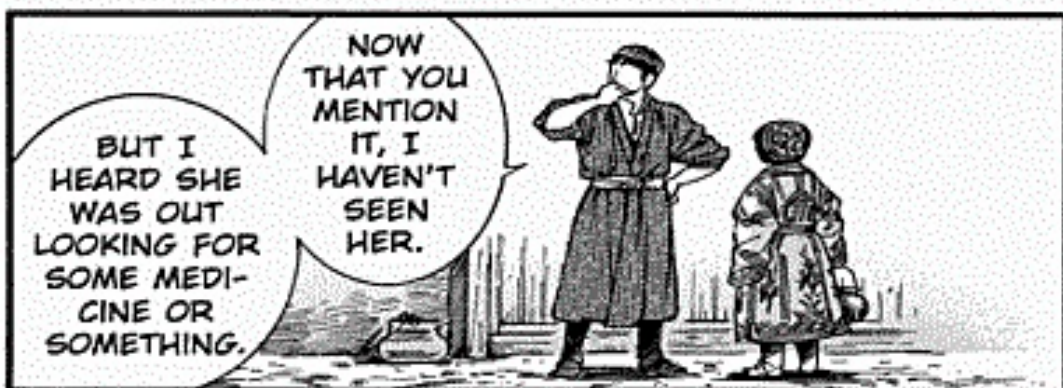


I ONLY
REMEMBER
WHAT I'VE
WATCHED
FROM
AFAR.

HAWKS
ARE A
MAN'S
BUSI-
NESS.

...YOU
KNOW
A LOT
ABOUT
THIS.







AMIR
DOESN'T
HAVE TO DO
EVERYTHING
FOR IT.

IF WE
SET IT
FREE, IT
WILL BE
BAD IF IT'S
GOTTEN
TOO DE-
PENDENT
ON ONE
PER-
SON.



NOT
THAT I
PAR-
TICU-
LARLY
MIND...

...BUT I
WONDER IF
SOMEONE
ELSE CAN
HELP LOOK
AFTER IT.



AHH...



NOT
THAT I
MIND,
BUT...



AND I
CAN HARDLY
EVEN TALK TO
HER WHEN I
WANT TO.

SHE
SEEMS TO BE
GONE A LOT
LATELY.

IT'S
ALWAYS
ABOUT
THE
HAWK.







I'D LIKE
YOU TO NOT
ALWAYS BE
SO FOCUSED
ONLY ON THE
HAWK...

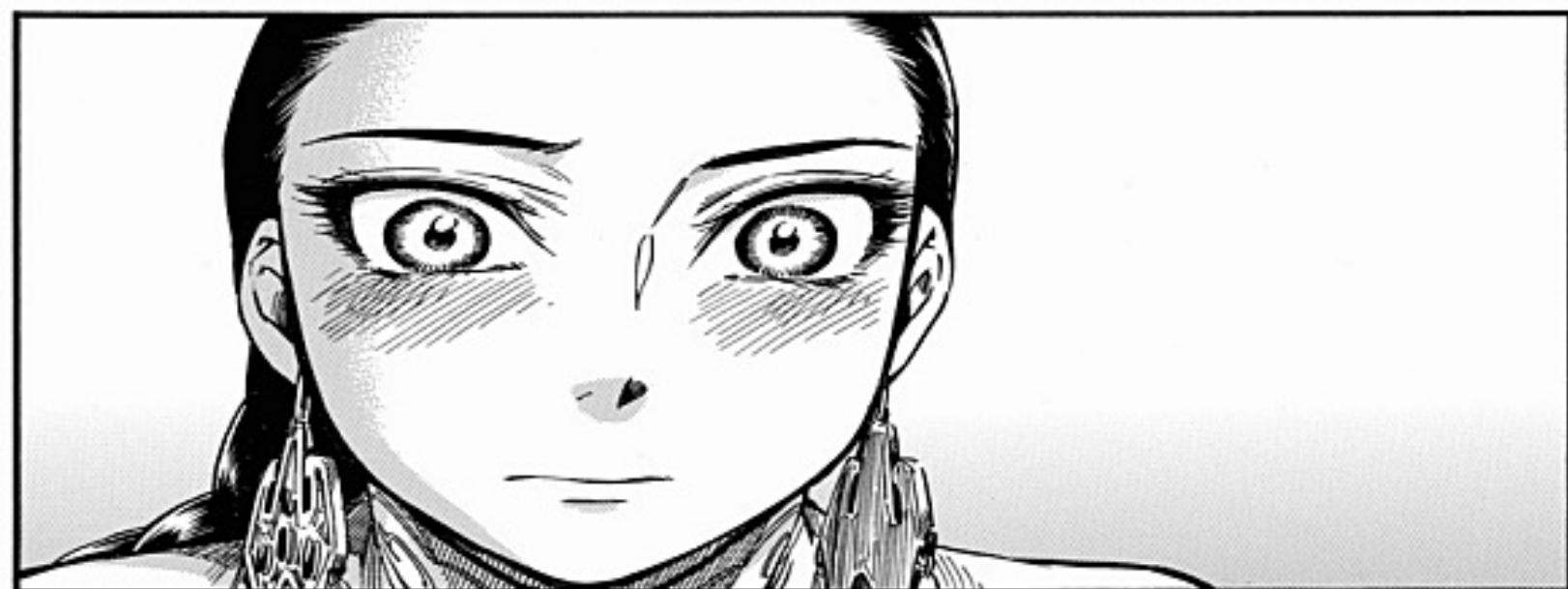
...AND
FOR YOU TO
SPEND A BIT
MORE TIME
WITH ME.



UHH...
LET'S
SEE...

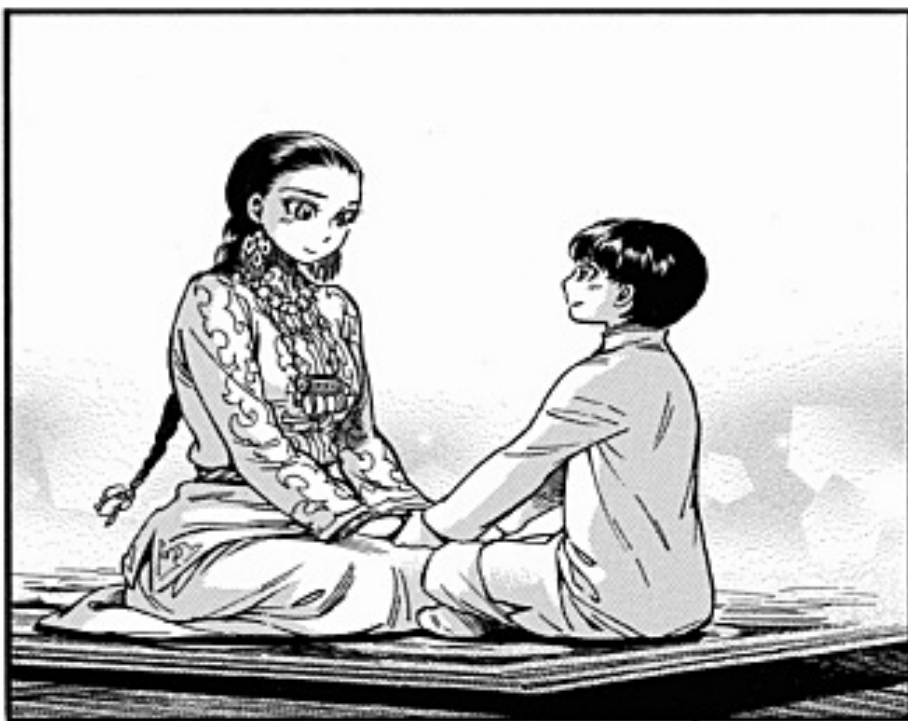
THAT
IS...

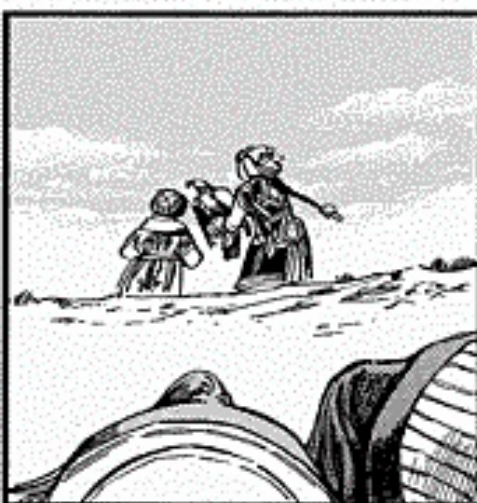
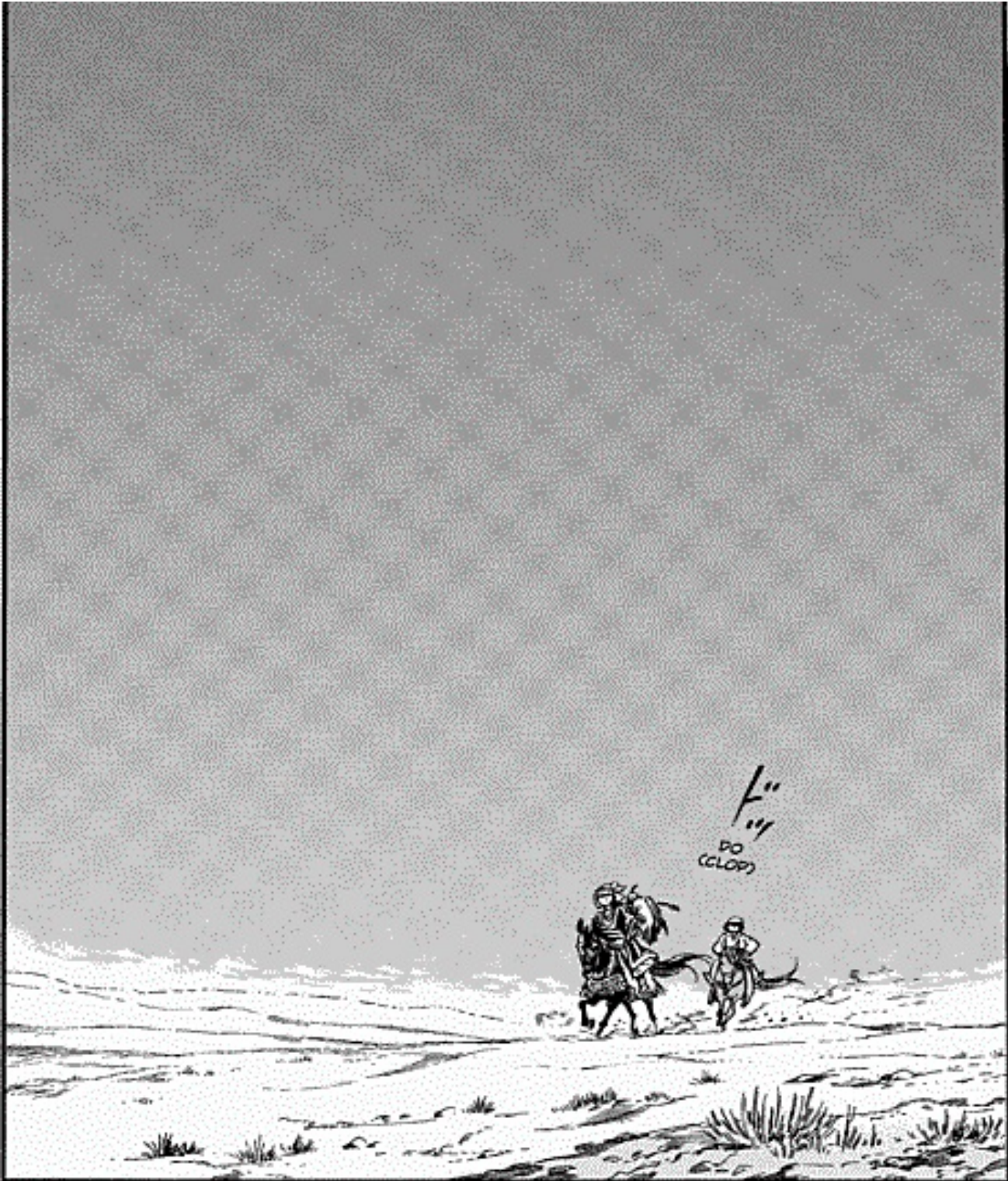
UM...

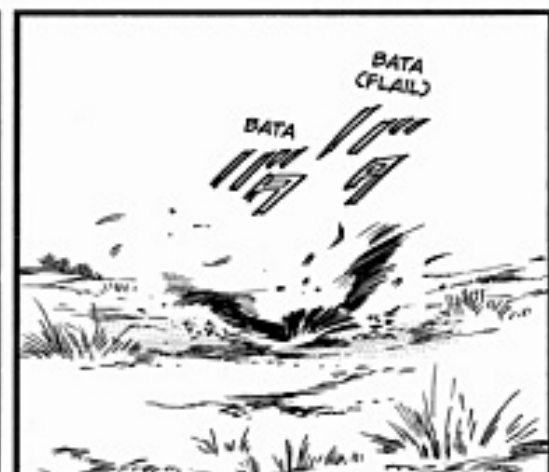


I'M
SORRY.

...ALL
RIGHT.

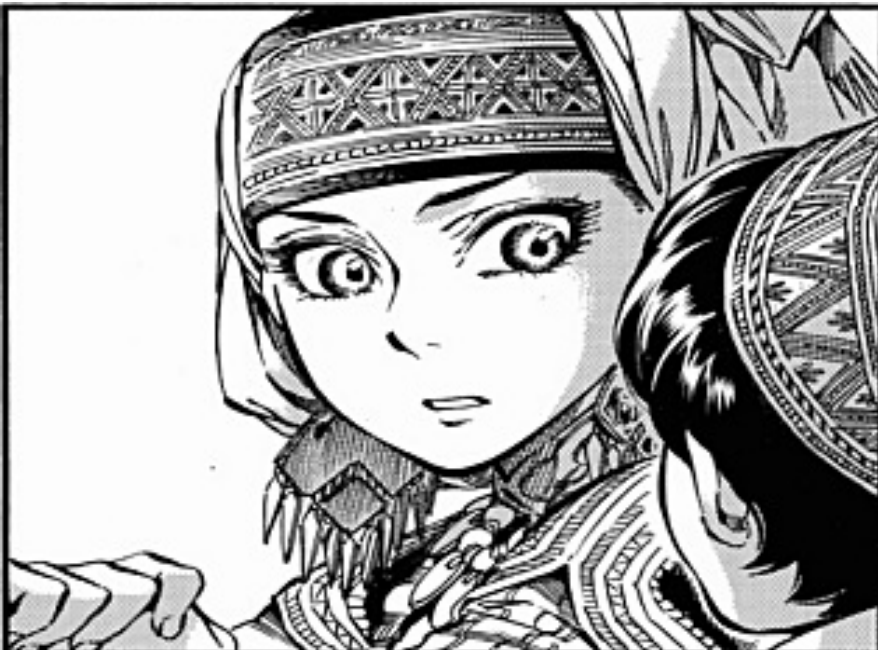












FLYING
IS A BIRD'S
LIFE.



NO. THAT
WOULD
NEVER DO.



EVEN IF IT
WERE STILL
ALIVE LIKE
THAT, IT
WOULDN'T BE
LIVING.

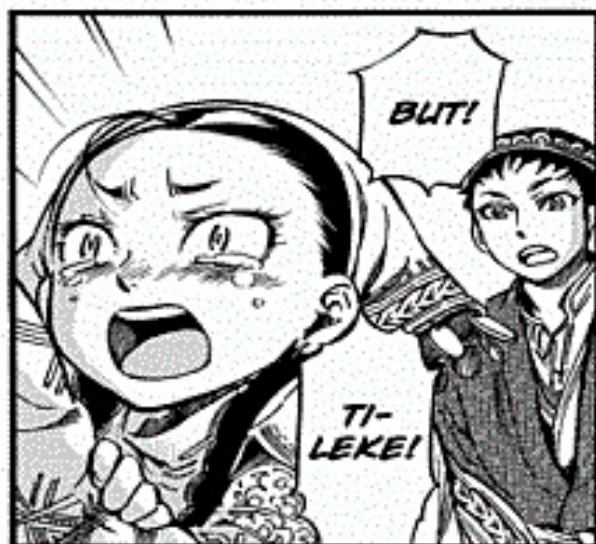


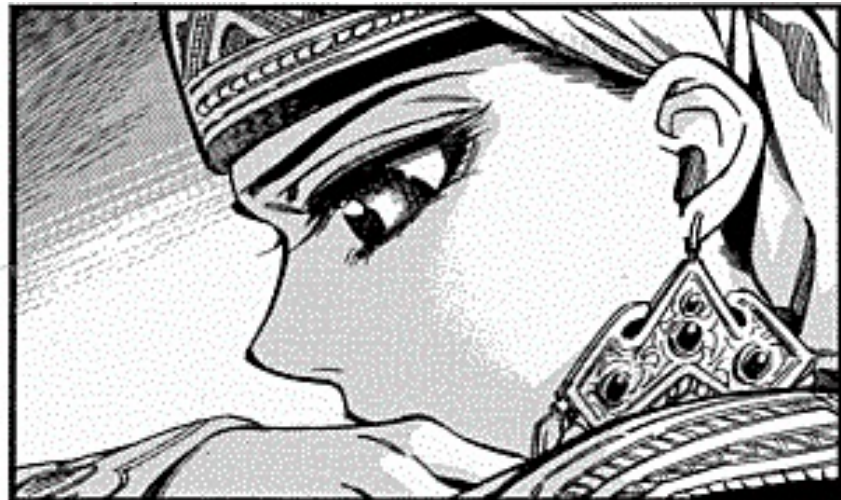
BEFORE
EVEN CON-
SIDERING
THAT...

...IT WOULD
BE BETTER TO
LEAVE IT HERE
ON THE PLAINS
FOR THE OTHER
ANIMALS TO EAT.















IT'S
PROBABLY
MINE.



I HEARD
THAT SOMEONE
HERE RESCUED
A HAWK...



IT'S
TOO BAD.
BUT IT
CAN'T BE
HELPED.

...IS
THAT
RIGHT?





I THOUGHT
THAT A WOLF
OR TIGER
HAD EATEN
IT LONG
AGO.

NO. I'M
THANKFUL
FOR ALL
THE EFFORT
YOU PUT
INTO IT.



IT HUNTED
DOWN A LOT
OF MEAT
FOR ME.

I WAS
BEGINNING
TO THINK OF
RETURNING IT
TO THE WILD.



WE DID
OUR
BEST TO
NURSE IT
BACK...

...BUT
THE WING
NEVER
HEALED
RIGHT.



HIGHWAY-
MEN?

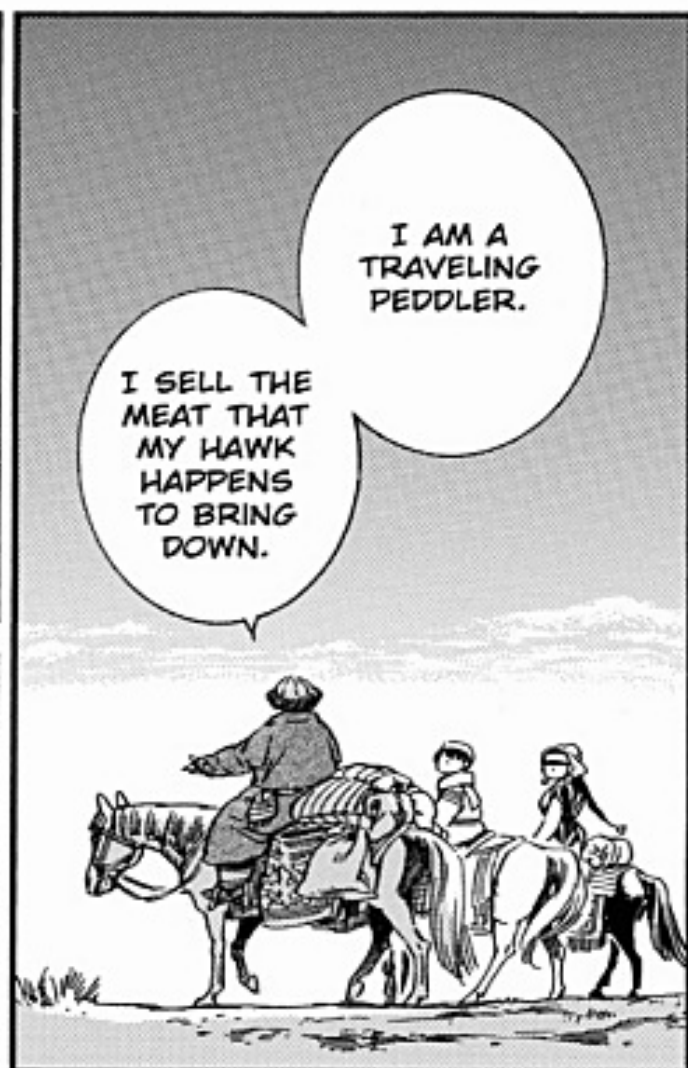
SOME
TIME AGO,
I WAS
ATTACKED BY
HIGHWAY-
MEN.

BUT WHEN
I FINALLY
MANAGED TO
ESCAPE THEM,
I REALIZED MY
HAWK WAS
GONE.



THERE
ARE PEOPLE
RUNNING TO
ESCAPE THE
RUSSIANS, AND
SOME HAVE
TAKEN TO
THIEVERY.

THINGS
HAVE
BEEN UN-
SETTLED
RECENTLY.



I AM A
TRAVELING
PEDDLER.

I SELL THE
MEAT THAT
MY HAWK
HAPPENS TO
BRING
DOWN.



WHERE
WERE YOU
CHASED?

COME TO
THINK OF
IT, I HEARD
A SIMILAR
STORY FROM A
TRADER FROM
A CARAVAN.

THERE
ARE A
LOT OF
THEM.

DEPEND-
ING ON
THE
AREA.

HOW
CLOSE
HAVE THE
RUSSIANS
GOTTEN?



THIEVES?

ARE THEY
THAT
PREVA-
LENT?



IT WOULD
BE A BIG
HELP IF
YOU COULD
TELL US!

WHAT-
EVER THE
RUMOR!

IF YOU
HEAR ANY-
THING MORE,
COULD YOU
MAKE YOUR
WAY BACK
HERE?



SO
ALL I'VE
HEARD
ARE
RUMORS.

I'VE
BEEN
TRYING TO
AVOID GET-
TING TOO
CLOSE.

I
COULDN'T
TELL YOU
THAT.



YOU
SHOULDN'T
MAKE A HAWK
ANSWER TO A
MAN'S ORDERS
FOR MORE
THAN A
FEW YEARS
ANYWAY.

I'LL
ARRANGE
FOR A NEW
ONE.



...MAKE
THINGS
A BIT
TIGHT.

BUT NOT
HAVING
ANYTHING
TO SELL...

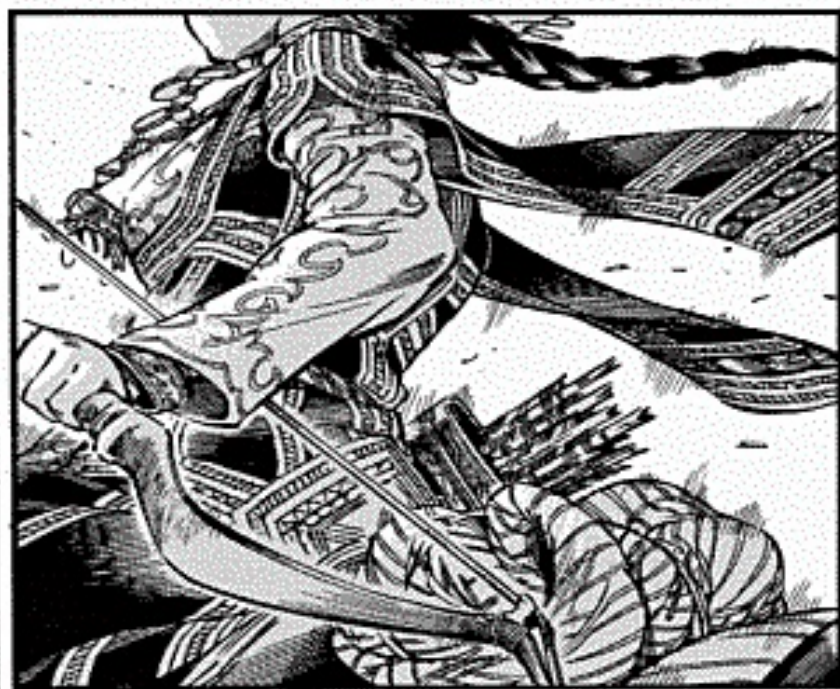
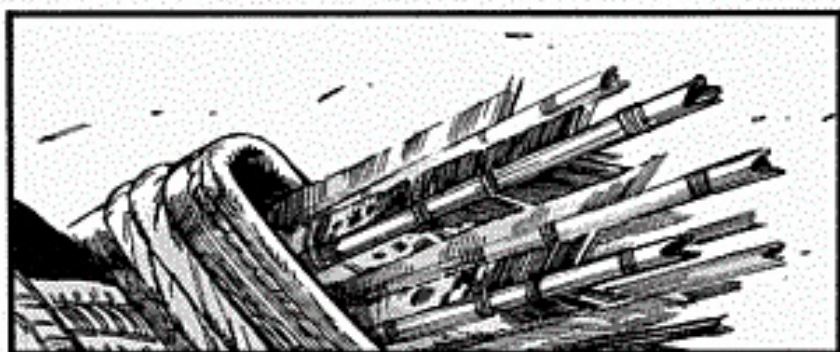
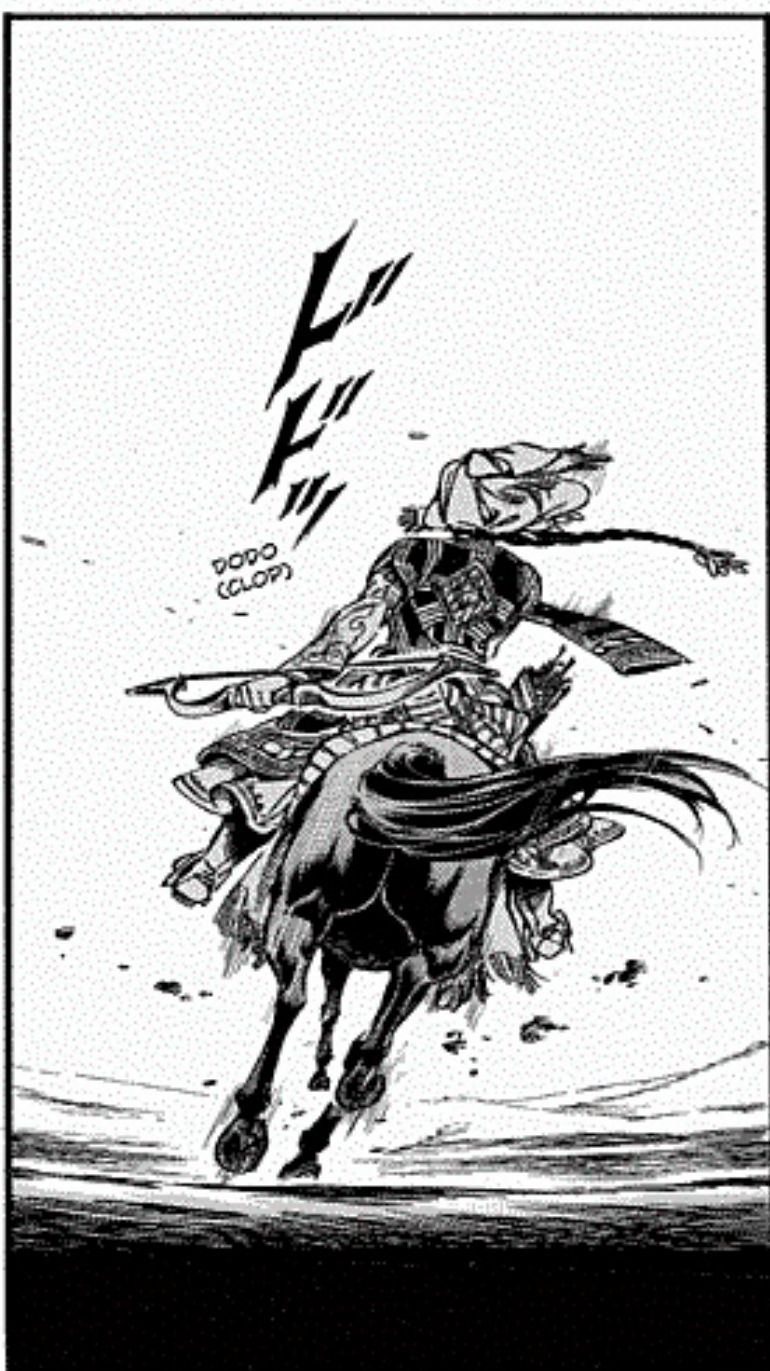
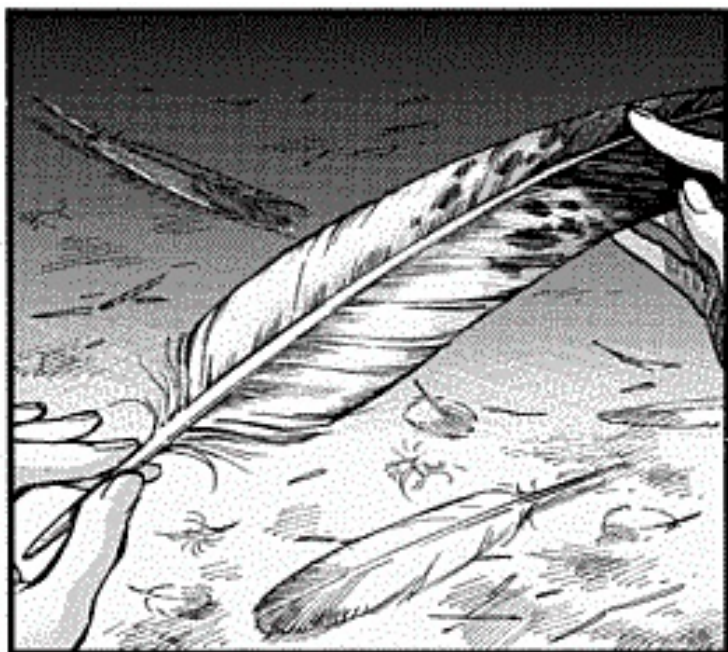
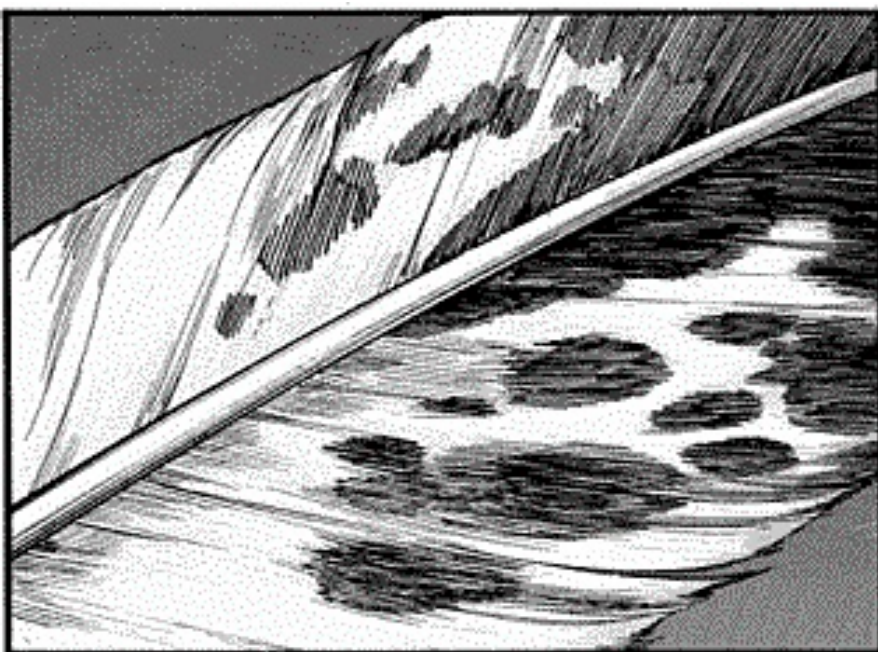
...
WILL
...



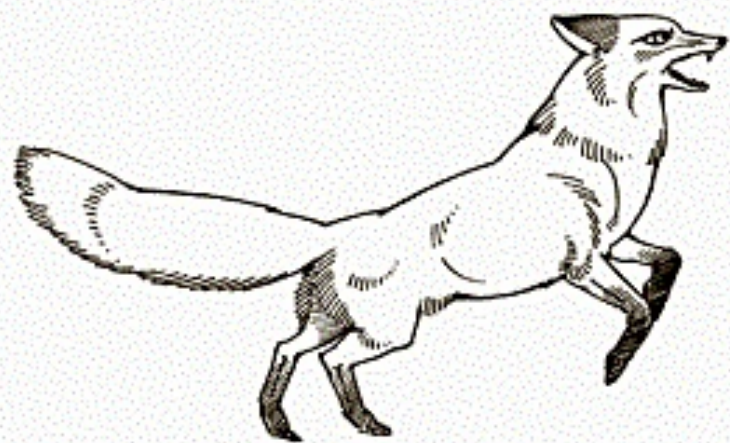
WILL YOU
BE ALL
RIGHT...

...WITH-
OUT
YOUR
HAWK?





AFTERWORD





"COME BE MY BRIDE"



NOTE: "COME BE MY BRIDE" ("OYOME NI OIDE") IS THE THEME SONG FROM A 1966 MOVIE BY THE SAME NAME. THE SONG IS SUNG BY A BOATMAN OUT ON THE WAVES AS HE TRIES TO ENTICE HIS LOVER TO JOIN HIM ON HIS BOAT AND BECOME HIS BRIDE. THE SONG IS FILLED WITH SEA IMAGERY.

"WHAT DOES YOUR NORMAL EVERYDAY ROUTINE LOOK LIKE?"

COME TO THINK OF IT, I HEAR THIS QUESTION A LOT.

...

NOPE. NEVER.

HAVE YOU EVER ACTUALLY EATEN ONE?

THEY ALSO ARE A LOT LIKE SATA ANDAGI SWEET BREAD FROM OKINAWA.

BY THE WAY, THE FRIED SUGAR BREAD IS BASICALLY LIKE DONUTS.

WHEAT FLOUR
+ EGGS
+ SUGAR



3
BREAKFAST TAKES LONGER THAN I THOUGHT, SO I RUSH TO CLEAN UP.

OH NO!
OH NO!

MAN-GA.

2
A MANGA MAGAZINE SO I DON'T CARE IF IT GETS DIRTY OR NOT.

READ MANGA WHILE EATING.

1
IT TAKES TIME FOR ME TO WAKE UP.

MORNING.

MMPH...

SO WE NOW PRESENT: A WORKING DAY (DURING PRODUCTION).

MORI

6
WHILE I'M DRAWING, THERE ARE THINGS I WANT TO DRAW THAT I DON'T KNOW VERY WELL, SO I GO TO MY RESEARCH BOOKS.

AND I GET MORE AND MORE INTO IT.

SCRITCH!
SCRITCH!

SCRITCH!
SCRITCH!

SCRITCH!

TRYING TO BECOME THE SHEEP.

SCRITCH!
SCRITCH!

SCRITCH!
SCRITCH!

SCRITCH!

5
I GO AHEAD AND START WITH THE PARTS I'M EXCITED ABOUT DRAWING.

SCRITCH!
SCRITCH!

I START TO DRAW MY PAGES.

4
DOING CHORES.

TOMORROW'S THE DAY FOR PAPER RECYCLING.

11
NIGHT.

I'VE GOTTEN SLEEPY, SO I SLEEP.

10
FERVENTLY DRAWING.

9
I DRAW WHILE THINKING OF THINGS LIKE WHAT ANIMAL I WANT TO APPEAR NEXT.

DRAWING.

DE-SERT-ER.

DEER? TIGER? SNAKE?

8
I GET HUNGRY, SO I EAT AND READ SOME MANGA.

AH HA HA

7
AFTER DOING RESEARCH, I STILL DON'T KNOW IT, SO I GIVE UP AND PLOW ON FORWARD ANYWAY.



I FIGURED
THE ONLY
QUEEN IN THE
SERIES IS THE
GRANDMOTHER
CHARACTER...
YOU KNOW?



...WAS AN
EXTRA EDITION
OF FELLOWS
THAT WAS
BASED ON
A "QUEEN"
THEME.

Easy
Rider



ALSO, THE
SIDE STORY
ABOUT THE
GRAND-
MOTHER...

I THINK
SO TOO.



IT KINDA
SEEMS
LIKE THE
LIFE AN
ANIMAL
HAS.



THE OTHER
ONE WAS
A TEST
PICTURE
I TOOK
AT THE
AIRPORT.

WHEN I GOT BACK
HOME AND CHECKED,
THE ONLY PICTURES I
HAD FOR THE WHOLE
TRIP WERE THE TWO
PICTURES ABOVE AND
ONE MORE.



...DO YOU
MIND IF
I TAKE A
PICTURE?



THEY WEREN'T
DOORMEN, BUT
DOORWOMEN!

WHAAAA!
WHAAAA!
WHAAAA!
WHAAAA!

SUDDENLY
CHANGING
THE
SUBJECT,
WHEN I
WENT TO A
SIGNING IN
TAIWAN...



ARE
THEY THE
HOTEL
DOOR-
MEN?
THAT'S
SO COOL!



THAT
INCLUDES THE
STORIES OF
THESE GUYS,
AND THOSE
PEOPLE. AND...



...WE'LL BE
STICKING WITH
AMIR AND
HER FAMILY
FOR A WHILE.

...THAT THE
TWIN'S
STORY IS
OVER...



IT WAS A
WEATHER
FORECAST.
THOSE ARE
WRONG ALL
THE TIME.

WOW!
YOU'RE
MEAN!

APOLO-
GIZE
TO THE
WEATH-
ER
PEOPLE!



WHAT
HAPPENED
TO THE
"LOVE
TORNADO"?



THANK
YOU SO
MUCH FOR
READING
THIS ONE!

GOOD-
BYE!
GOOD-
BYE!



SO
LET'S MEET
AGAIN IN
THE NEXT
VOLUME!

THE END

A BRIDE'S STORY ⑤



KAORU MORI

TRANSLATION: WILLIAM FLANAGAN

LETTERING: ABIGAIL BLACKMAN

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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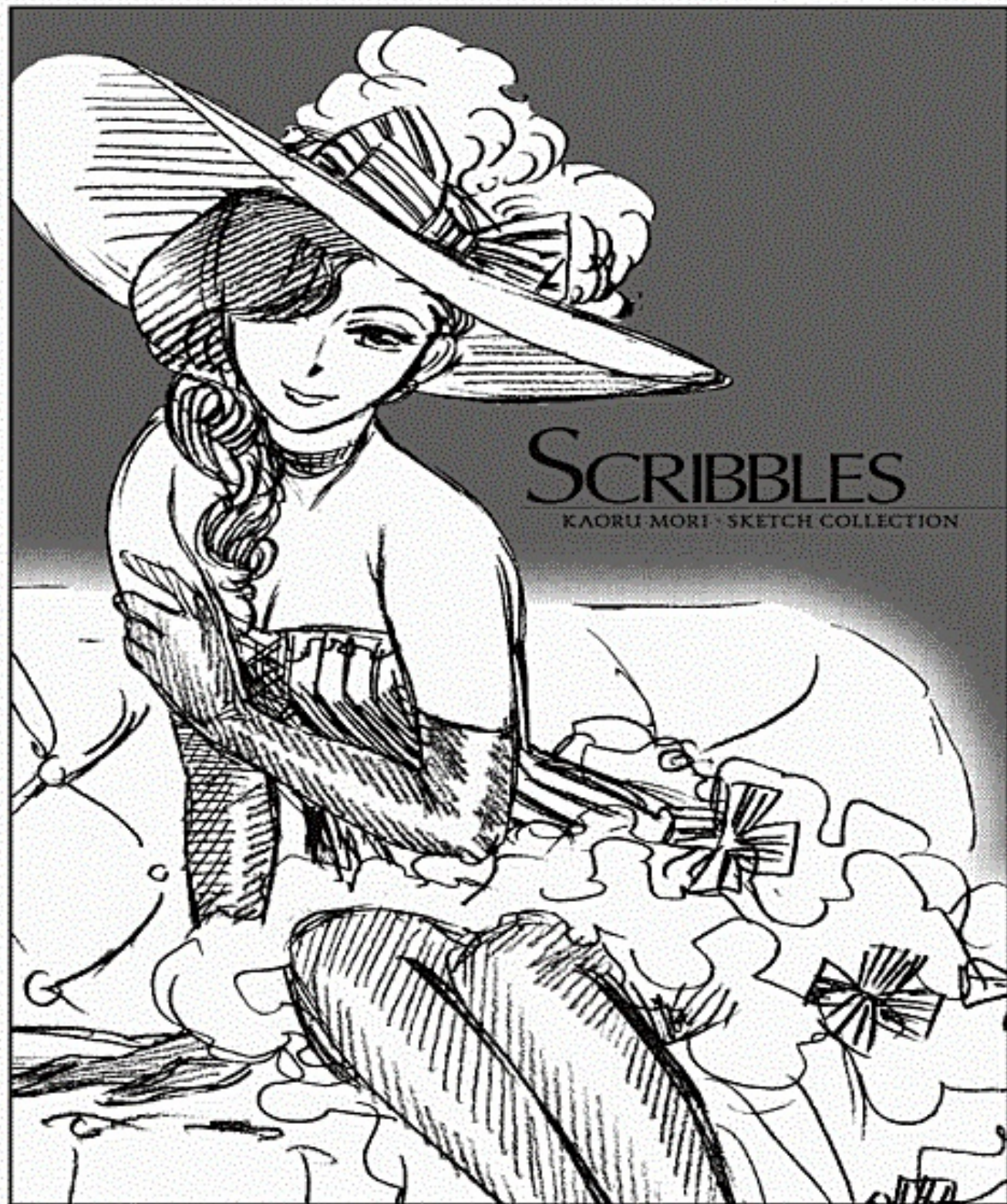
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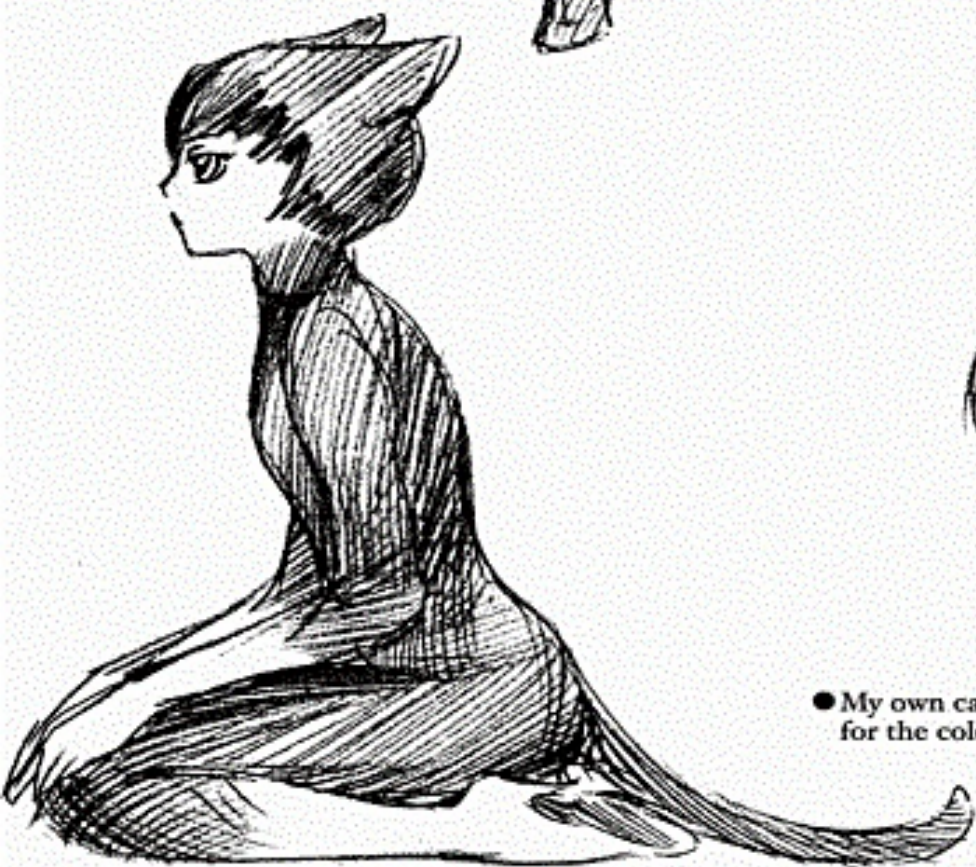


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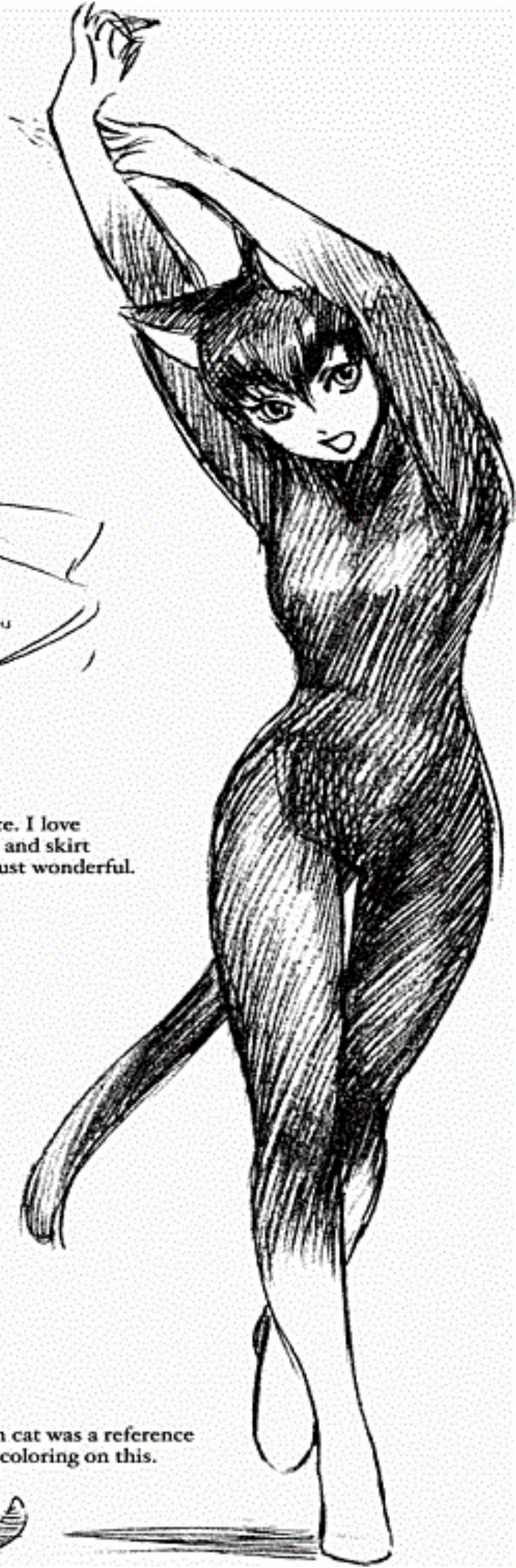
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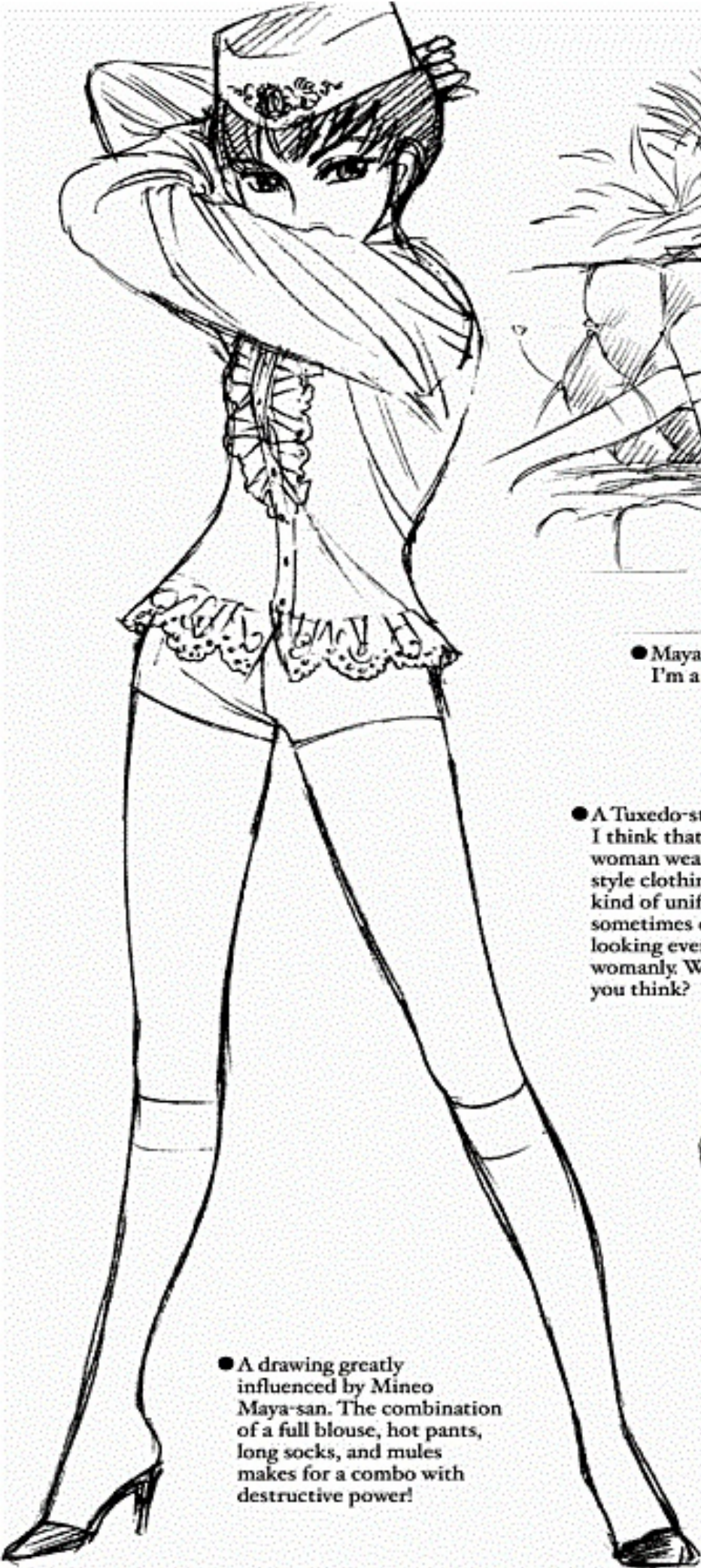


● A gypsy dance. I love how the hair and skirt spread out. Just wonderful.



● My own cat was a reference for the coloring on this.





● A drawing greatly influenced by Mineo Maya-san. The combination of a full blouse, hot pants, long socks, and mules makes for a combo with destructive power!



● Maya-san Style No. 2. If you want my opinion, I'm a fan of this type of clothing for young women.

● A Tuxedo-style suit. I think that when a woman wears men's-style clothing as a kind of uniform, she sometimes comes out looking even more womanly. What do you think?



MAXIM

GRISSETTES

Lolo

Joujou

Margot

Froufrou

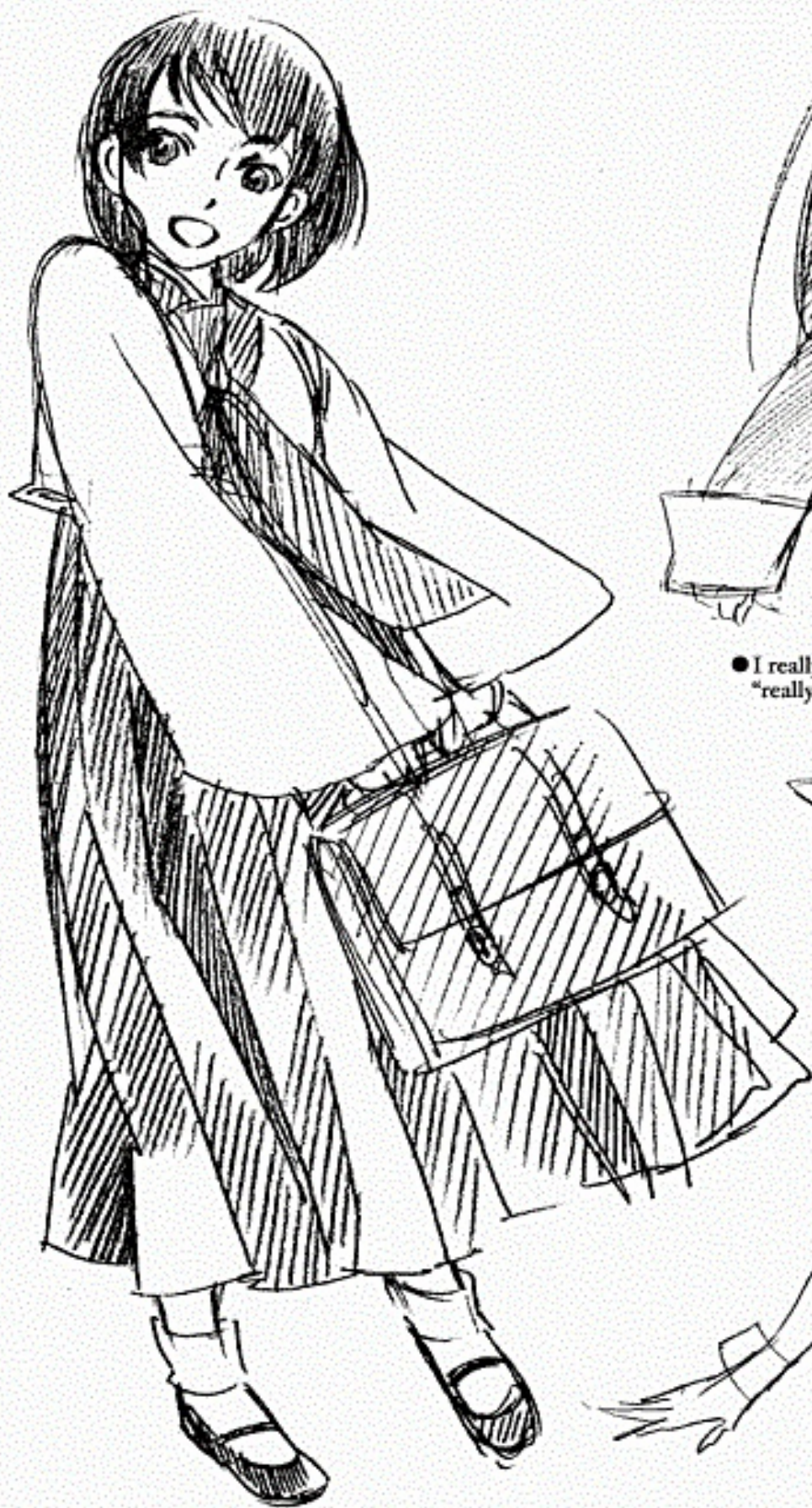
Dodo

Cloco



● There was a time when I really wanted to go to the zoo, but I managed to stave off the urge by drawing sketches.

● Every now and then when I board a train, I see a Korean schoolgirl in *jeogori* uniform. She's so cute that I get the urge to start following her. I don't follow her, though.



● I really tried to do a *moe* picture, but I think the "really tried" translated into "tried too hard."



● A bunny girl. I'm sure you're feeling kind of like, "Oh, come on!" right now. Sorry.





● The "Toréador Song" from Bizet's *Carmen*. It's hugely famous, but no matter how many times I listen, I still think it's fabulous. "Toréador, en garde!!"

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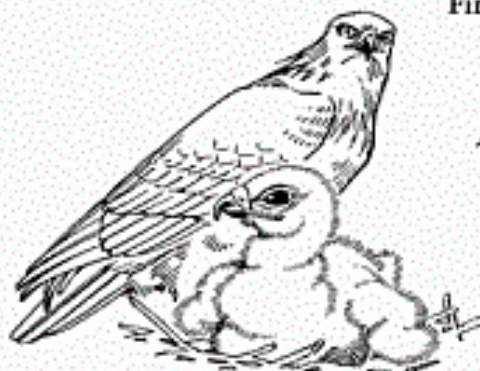
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